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75¢

IPI 2017 profits dip 32 percent

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Despite an increase in equity, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC reports a 32-percent dip in profits compared to figures from calendar year 2016.

According to a report to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, IPI net profits for 2017 amount to \$82.9 million, a 32-percent dip from 2016, which yielded a profit of over \$121.6 million.

"The drop of profit is mainly attributable to increase in impairment losses of trade receivables, operating, and administrative expenses incurred during the year," IPI reported.

See IPI on **Page 4**

Kilili: Prompt Medicaid spending helping effort to fix 2019 funding cliff

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday he appreciates that the CNMI is spending its Medicaid grant money promptly. It helps him make the case to extend funding next year. The delegate was able to add \$109 million for the Marianas Medicaid program in the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, beginning in 2011. The funding expires, however, at the end of fiscal year 2019.



Sablan

"The Commonwealth is using its

See KILILI on **Page 4**

1 defendant who pled guilty in CW-1 scam case gets time served

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Zeaur Rahman Dalu, one of six defendants who entered a guilty plea for his role in a CW-1 scam that vic-

timized Bangladeshi nationals, was sentenced in federal court yesterday to a term of imprisonment of four months of time already served.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona

said upon release from imprisonment, Dalu shall submit to a term of supervised release of one year.

Manglona said because of the financial situation of Dalu, she is
See DEFENDANT on **Page 4**



MOBILE COMMAND

A Judiciary staff checks the system at a mobile command unit that has been provided recently to the Guma Hustisia or House of Justice at the direction of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and special assistant for Homeland Security and Emergency Management Gerald Deleon Guerrero. The Guma Hustisia building has been closed to the public since March 16 due to air-conditioning system and mold problems.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Saipan to host 23rd Micronesians Islands Forum

Every year, the chief executives of Micronesia meet to discuss and establish regional cooperation on a

variety of issues that are of mutual concern to the region.

Known as the Micronesians Islands

Forum, this annual summit brings together the six governors and three presidents of Micronesia, as

well as policy representatives from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Territory of Guam, the Republic of Palau,

See SAIPAN on **Page 4**

INSIDE



LOCAL

A day aboard the *SuperStar Virgo* is like none you could ever imagine with the amount of activities offered to the hospitality of the vessel's crew and the mouth-watering food served to each guest.

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OFFBEAT

A 13-year-old boy was miraculously rescued Monday after falling into a river of sewage in Los Angeles.

PAGE 24



LIFE & STYLE

The jury picked to decide Bill Cosby's fate in the first big trial of the #MeToo era ended up mirroring the gender and racial makeup of the group that deadlocked last year.

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Local

FOR ALLEGED NON-PAYMENT OF MINIMUM WAGE, OT

4 poker arcade cashiers sue employer

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Four poker arcade cashiers have filed a complaint in federal court against an operator of video poker arcades for allegedly not paying them the minimum wage and overtime compensation.

Katrina Del Gallego Demapan, Ma. Gina Tiozon, Mary Zine G. Muhi, and Emelinda E. Sanchez are suing Zeng's American Corp., owner of Happy Poker, and Zeng American Corp.'s principal, Jin Dong Zeng, for alleged violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Demapan, Muhi, and Sanchez are current employees of defendants, while Tiozon is a former employee.

Demapan, Tiozon, Muhi, and Sanchez, through counsel Mark B. Hanson, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold the defendants liable to pay them the minimum wage and overtime premium for all hours they worked, damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

According to Hanson in the complaint, from February 2014 through February 2016, Demapan and Muhi worked 12 hours per day, seven days

per week and defendants paid them a monthly salary of \$1,500.

From April 2015 through Feb. 2016, Sanchez worked 12 hours per day, seven days per week and defendants paid her a monthly salary of \$1,500.

From February 2016 through March 2017, Demapan, Muhi, and Sanchez each worked eight hours per day, seven days per week and defendants paid them each a monthly salary of \$1,000.

During the entire term of her employment, Tiozon worked 12 hours per day, seven days per week and defendants paid her a monthly salary of \$1,500.

On several occasions, Hanson said, defendants would deduct various amounts from the cashiers' salary for cash register shortages.

Hanson said defendants also required the cashiers each to make a large "deposit" to defendants as funds from which to deduct from them for cash register shortages.

The lawyer said the deductions and deposits required by defendants effectively decreased the cashiers' minimum hourly wage and overtime premiums that are mandated by FLSA.

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DLNR heightens security vs invasive species

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

The Department of Land and Natural Resource has been partnering with multiple agencies to heighten security for items that are entering the CNMI in order to prevent the entrance of invasive species.

To prevent the spread of species that pose a threat to the valuable resources in the CNMI, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has worked with different agencies to closely monitor what is brought into Saipan, Tinian, and Rota from Guam.

Back in October, the first batch of coconut rhinoceros beetles infiltrated Rota. Fortu-

nately, DLNR and the CNMI administration was able to get to the source before it fully infected the island and since then, the population of coconut rhinoceros beetles have since seen a reduction.

DLNR Secretary Anthony Benavente said fortunately, Rota didn't face the same irreversible fate Guam did, where almost all the coconut trees were wiped out.

Although Rota can still be salvaged due to both government efforts and predators like birds and rats, DLNR and the CNMI administration is left with the fear that the beetles could soon make their way into Saipan and Tinian next.

Benavente said during an

interview that Customs and the islands' Ports Police have been instructed to be vigilant in monitoring all imports from Guam.

Benavente said these beetles can be transported very easily and it takes just one female beetle to produce a mass amount of larvae and that could be the end for the island's valuable coconut tree.

"A lot of the invasive species now are really happening in Guam," he said.

According to Benavente, Guam has been very helpful in terms of sharing data with the CNMI in how to combat the invasive coconut rhinoceros beetle.

"We are finding sources in

terms of work bio date, security, trainings ... Guam is doing so much of the training and they're letting us know in terms of how to prevent this," he said.

"Whenever there's an invasive species right around the corner, we can never sleep. We have to be vigilant in protecting our border and so far we've been so lucky," he added.

DLNR has also been working with the administration in terms of funding so

they can get people who are capable of further protecting the CNMI's borders. Without the manpower, there is no means of efficiently protecting the islands of Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands from suffering the same fate as Rota and Guam.

"...Because we don't have that much manpower and its going to hurt us eventually if we don't monitor entry of these things... in the airport, seaport, post office I don't care where but we want to make sure of whatever is coming in," he said.

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Birmingham-Babauta to run for House seat

By BEA CABRERA

beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. public information officer Samantha A'ani Birmingham-Babauta has announced her intention to run for a seat in the House of Representatives.

"I am running for House of Representatives Precinct 1," said the 24-year-old Birmingham-Babauta, who is running as an independent.

"I want to do more work than me just going to the podium, saying my piece, sharing my voice and trying to change things from the other side of the system. This is will give me an opportunity to be in the system and a seat at the table,"

she said.

"I want to be able to draft legislation and have partnerships with agencies because from experience, a lot of legislation is not in partnership with agencies so the draft does not et things done and some times it's not even within federal regulations of what that agency is required to do," Birmingham-Babauta added

Birmingham-Babauta is no stranger to the House, as during her public testimony against House Bill 20-149 to revert the CHCC under the central government, she did not hesitate to make her voice heard.

Birmingham-Babauta was born and raised on Saipan, going to both Saipan Southern

cil, and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education or WICHE.

In addition, the agenda includes committee reports from the MIF's nine standing committees, which are comprised of policy representatives from the nine island jurisdictions led by the CNMI's designated representatives:

- Regional Workforce Development Council
- Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council
- Renewable Energy Committee
- Pacific Island Regional Recycling Initiative Committee
- Regional Transportation Committee
- Regional Health Committee
- Regional Telecommunications Committee
- Micronesia Challenge
- Regional Tourism Council

At the conclusion of the forum, the island chief executives will sign a communiqué that outlines the steps and initiatives that will be taken moving forward to get the leaders closer to achieving the region's goals. The MIF will also coincide with the CNMI's annual Flame Tree Arts Festival held that weekend and brings together artists from all over Micronesia in a shared display of culture, tradition, history, and progress moving forward.

"It's our collective goal to have stronger regional partnerships that can lead to effective policies that will benefit our various communities. Whether that be how we tackle issues of invasive species to how we promote environmental sustainability to how we achieve economic success, we are using this forum to bring Micronesia together on all fronts. In the midst of globalization, we can navigate our world as one Micronesia," Governor Torres said.

The community is encouraged to participate in this year's forum, but space is limited and is only open for registrants. To register for the 23rd Micronesia Islands Forum, email Glenna SP Reyes at glenna.sp.reyes.cnmidr.mif@gmail.com. (PR)

High School and graduating from Marianas High School before completing her first year of college at the University of Guam. She transferred to California State University, Northridge where she graduated with her Bachelor's of Science in Kinesiology.

Before becoming the PIO at CHCC, she served as the research associate for Policy, Sustainability, and Development, and was responsible for tracking CNMI legislation related to health and CHCC.

The issues close to Birmingham-Babauta are access

DEFENDANT

From Page 1

not imposing any fine and restitution.

The judge agreed with the prosecution and the defense that Dalu had a minor participation in the scheme.

Manglona said although she was not the one who presided over the trial of Dalu's co-defendants, she is aware of Dalu's role as argued by the counsel and based on her review of the court records.

Manglona said Dalu, however, did commit a very serious crime—a felony.

Manglona said Dalu was part of a group that impacted the lives of two people.

The judge was referring to the two victims—Tazizul Islam and Rafiqul Islam—who were present in court along with their attorney, Pamela Brown.

"It's unfortunate because I do believe it was not something of your character," said the judge, adding that Dalu is an educated man having a bachelor's degree and a teacher back in Bangladesh.

Manglona said she believes in an incident in this case in which Dalu stated something to a co-defendant to do right

what was wrong.

Manglona said as a further condition of supervised release, Dalu must report to a duly authorized immigration official for deportation proceedings.

The judge said if deportation does not occur and Dalu is released pending further immigration proceedings, he must immediately report to the U.S. Probation Office to begin his term of supervised release.

Manglona said Dalu must perform 25 hours of community work service at the direction of the U.S. Probation Office in lieu of a fine, which shall be suspended if he is gainfully employed.

Dalu was ordered to pay \$200 in special assessment fee immediately after sentencing.

Dalu has been in detention for 143 days.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto, counsel for the U.S. government, emphasized that it's true that Dalu early on in this case had received money through his mother in Bangladesh.

Benedetto said defendant Muksedur Rahman told the victims not to give Dalu any money.

Benedetto said Rahman in turn received money from

to healthcare, mental and environmental health, urban development and many the many issues experienced by everybody.

According to Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), Birmingham-Babauta's credentials and resume speaks

the victims.

The prosecutor said he wants to make it clear that Dalu and his mother kept some receipts of the payments.

Benedetto said Dalu and his mother turned over to the U.S. government the receipts, which were very importance evidence in the trial against Rahman and other co-defendants.

He said Dalu's testimony in the trial against the co-defendants was critical.

Benedetto said the government would not be seeking restitution from Dalu.

Defense counsel David G. Banes said Dalu also cooperated in another matter, which is an ongoing investigation.

In recommending a sentence of time served, Banes said Dalu accepted responsibility, showed remorse, cooperated with the U.S. government, and has no prior arrest or conviction.

"He himself is a victim of similar fraud," Banes said, adding that Dalu's family in Bangladesh is indebted.

In August 2017, Dalu pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

The amended superseding indictment charged Dalu with one count of mail fraud and two counts of fraud in foreign

for itself.

"She is a Gates Millennium Scholar, is very articulate and aware of the current issues facing our beloved Commonwealth, and she is as principled as she is passionate about serving our community," he said.

labor contracting.

As part of the plea deal, the prosecution moved to dismiss the remaining count. The court granted the motion.

Benedetto stated in court documents that the integral to defendants' scheme to defraud was the collection of large amounts of money—roughly between \$15,000 and \$20,000—from each of the 12 named victims in this case.

Last Oct. 18, the federal jury returned a guilty verdict against Dalu's co-defendants David Trung Quoc Phan, Muksedur Rahman, and Mohammed Rafiqul Islam.

Phan was sentenced to eight months in prison, while Rahman was slapped with a 48-month prison term. Islam was sentenced to 18 months of imprisonment.

After the prosecution rested its case during the trial, Phan's fiancée, Analyn Nunez, and Rahman's wife, Shahinur Akter, were acquitted.

According to the U.S. government, each of the victims paid over \$10,000, but when they arrived on Saipan in April of 2016, they were not given work as promised.

The government subsequently named five victims, all Bangladeshis, in the case.

KILILI

From Page 1

Obamacare money well," Sablan said. "The extra money helped keep the hospital open, even after local funding was cut.

"And the \$109 million will almost entirely be spent down by the end of 2019.

"Next year, with a possible Democratic majority, this funding cliff, and a very good spending track-record by the CNMI I think we have an excellent shot at extending—even increasing—Medicaid funding."

One problem with extending the Obamacare funding in the current Congress is that the Republican majority has focused on killing Obamacare.

Another difficulty is slow spending in other territories.

Data provided by the Congressional Research Service to Sablan indicates that Guam will have spent 69 percent of available funding and American Samoa only 20 percent by the end of 2019.

The CNMI by contrast is projected to spend 93 percent of its money.

Congress did provide some short-term Medicaid assistance for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria last year.

"We do not want to have to go through a typhoon to get more Medicaid money," said Sablan. "Besides, we need a long-term solution, not just the short-term patch provided for the Caribbean islands to help with storm recovery."

Local legislative action could speed expenditure.

One solution Sablan has

proposed is to lift the cap on Medicaid funding for the insular areas. "States can spend as much as they want on Medicaid, as long as the federal dollars are matched by the state government," the congressman explained.

"The CNMI has been making its match using certified public expenditures rather than matching dollars with dollars," Sablan said.

Certified public expenditures are funds the Commonwealth Healthcare Center spends on items and services that are eligible for federal matching Medicaid funds. CPE has averaged about \$13 million per year.

Sablan said there may be additional certified public expenditures that the hospital could account for and use, if the cap were lifted.

"Using the CPE is smart," Sablan said.

"But the Legislature could also start appropriating local funds to match the federal Medicaid dollars, as they once did. That, too, would be smart. Because with a 55 percent federal match you more than double your money," he explained.

"We have over 14,000 people who depend on Medicaid directly. And anyone who goes to the hospital benefits, too, indirectly, because Medicaid money has kept the doors open. So, a financial commitment from the legislature would help improve healthcare for everyone.

"A local commitment would also help draw down our remaining Obamacare money and make the case for continued federal funding beyond 2019," Sablan said. (PR)

IPI

From Page 1

Contrary to the less net profit made, IPI displayed a substantial increase in annual gross revenue. The Hong Kong-based company reports that gross revenue for 2017 from continuing operations amount to over \$1.7 billion, a 75-percent increase from 2016's \$973.5 million.

IPI in their report noted

majority of their gross revenue is derived from their VIP gaming operations. For 2017 alone, VIP gaming operations yielded \$1.65 billion while the company raked in \$929.9 million in 2016 gross revenue.

Less commission, IPI net revenues for 2017 amount to over \$1.06 billion, double of 2016's \$529.4 million.

Mass table gaming operations for 2017 yielded over \$39.9 million and \$34 million for 2017 and 2016, respective-

ly, indicating a 15.57-percent increase. Slot machines and electronic gaming machines yielded \$8.64 million and \$7.4 million for 2017 and 2016, respectively, which is a 16.69-percent increase. Food and beverage operations yielded \$7.4 million and \$5.1 million for 2017 and 2016 respectively—a 36.76-percent increase.

IPI gross profits for 2017 more than doubles that of 2016. The company reported \$902.6 million and \$418.2

million in gross profits for 2017 and 2016 respectively, amounting to a massive 115.83-percent increase.

According to the IPI report, the company's equity increased 34.67 percent. From January 2017's \$371.9 million to December 2017's \$500.9 million. IPI in January 2016 had a total equity of \$227.2 million. IPI total equity since January 2016 more than doubled at the start of 2018 with an increase of 120.48 percent.

SAIPAN

From Page 1

the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia and its members states of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap.

This year, the CNMI will be hosting the 23rd Micronesia Islands Forum on Saipan from April 25-27, 2018 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Last year during the 22nd Micronesia Islands Forum held on Guam, island leaders agreed to hold this year's MIF in the CNMI.

As part of being the host island jurisdiction, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will serve as host and assume the formal chairmanship of the forum, leading policy discussions on a wide array of issues important to the region. Preparations for this year's MIF began in January.

Torres underscored the significance of the meeting between the island leaders, noting that Micronesia is undergoing a period of increased globalization that requires its leaders to continue collaborating and strengthening the ties within the region.

"As leaders within Micronesia, we are fully aware of our similarities in culture and history, but we are also cognizant of our shared limitations with economic viability, education, and healthcare as island nations due to our size and location. Collective problems require collective solutions, and we are uniquely positioned to determine sustainable policies and reforms that would develop our economies successfully and provide resources for our region's critical needs. We're looking forward to the discussions from our chiefs, our special guests, and the Micronesian community at large," he said.

The three-day event will feature presentations from all nine island jurisdictions and several key federal and regional partners including the Office of Insular Affairs, the U.S. Department of State, the Western Pacific Fishery Coun-

National Library Week to be proclaimed today

**TORRES**

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

Today marks the start of National Library Week and National Bookmobile Day for the CNMI. For the entirety of the week, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will provide children and their families with a bunch of educational activities to do together.

JKPL has prepared a proclamation ceremony to kick off the start of Library Week today. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is expected to attend the ceremony and sign the proclamation officiating Library Week.

During the ceremony, JKPL will also unveil the design of the new state library card and will also have a memorial service dedicated to JKPL staff Roy Diaz Rechebei. The ceremony will start at 10am and will be held at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

On Saturday, April 7, the community is invited to join JKPL in the annual Mobile Information Literacy Fair from 10am to 12:30pm. The event will also be held at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library grounds.

For individuals interested in joining the activities, contact Vicky Cabrera at 235-7315 or email her at cabreravjkpl@gmail.com.

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Security guard gets 56-day prison term for stealing a rental car

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja has imposed a 56-day prison term on a man who rented a car but never returned it.

Naraja sentenced Gregorio Omar Lieto last Tuesday to two years imprisonment, all suspended except the first 56 days, for theft of vehicle.

Naraja gave Lieto credit for time served of 26 days.

Lieto, who is now working as a security guard, was allowed to serve the prison during weekends.

After completing the prison term, the defendant will be placed on two years of probation. He was ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine, about \$10,000 in restitution, and required to perform 100 hours of community work service.

During the probationary period, Lieto will be prohibited from having direct or

indirect contact with the victim, U Save Car Rental, and its owner.

Lieto will also be prohibited from consuming or using any alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs during the probationary period.

Lieto pleaded guilty.

Assistant attorney general J. Robert Glass Jr., counsel for the government, initially recommended a sentence of two years, all suspended except 220 days.

Assistant public defender Heather Zona, counsel for Lieto, recommended a sentence of time served.

In November 2016, police arrested Lieto on the beach side of Lower Base for renting for a day a Toyota Corolla on Aug. 5, 2016 and never returning it.

It was the owner of U Save Car Rental who called the police in November 2016 after finding the stolen car parked at the beach side of Lower Base.

Traffic investigator Norris Kwon immediately responded to the area and found the car, operated by Lieto.

The car was found to have a broken right side view mirror, missing rear bumper cover, and damaged left side tail lamp and front bumper cover.

Kwon said Lieto confessed damaging the rear bumper cover during a family gathering when a family member hit the car with a four-wheeler.

13 sites on Saipan red-flagged

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has red-flagged 13 sites on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this location for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The sites red-flagged are San Roque School, Plumeria Hotel, Aqua Resort Club, Tanapag Meeting, Central Repair Shop, Sea Plane Ramp, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Garapan Fishing Dock, Garapan Beach, CK Dist. 2 Drain, CK Dist. 4 Drain, Chalan Piao Beach, and Hopwood School Beach.

Samples collected from this beach contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

BECQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(BECQ)**

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ENROLLMENT IS GOING ON

MINA receives over \$1K from Celebrity Bagging

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bridge Capital LLC successfully distributed over 1,000 reusable bags during its first Celebrity Bagging event last Saturday.

Bridge Capital partnered with Joeten Enterprises and Micronesian Islands Nature Alliance last Saturday to lessen the usage of plastic bags across the CNMI. For every reusable bag distributed at Joeten Susupe or Joeten Garapan, Bridge Capital donated \$1.

Last Wednesday, Bridge Capital donated a total of \$1,125 to MINA for the 1,125 reusable bags that were distributed at the Joeten Susupe and Joeten Garapan combined.

According to Bridge Capital chief operations officer Tucker Baldwin, their first Celebrity Bagging was a massive success.

Bridge Capital has already ordered another batch of reusable shopping bags because they intend to partner up with Joeten Enterprises and MINA to host another Celebrity Bagging event, if permitted, this year.

The next Celebrity Bagging date is to be announced.

Baldwin said that he was so pleased with the amount of support the community showed for their first Celebrity Bagging and hopes that they continue to support the cause.

Baldwin said that he is also extremely thankful for the celebrities who participated in the Celebrity Bagging and for the role they played in making the event an enjoyable and memorable one.

The concept of Celebrity Bagging was for community celebrities like government officials, leaders in private agencies, and community role models to come out for one hour and bag groceries while they spread awareness of the benefits of reducing the use of plastic bags.

Celebrities who volunteered their time during the Celebrity Bagging event last Saturday were CNMI lawmakers, public figures, private company leaders, groups from government agencies, and active community members.

The Celebrity Bagging event is put on every year to discourage the use of plastic bags. Every shopper is given a free reusable bag with every purchase that they can reuse during Taya Plastic Tuesdays, or they can completely substitute the bags for plastic bags.



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For more information on this promotion, please contact your school
Walkathon coordinator or the Red Cross Chapter office at 234-3459

KagHS senior receives national recognition



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Nathaley Nicolai C. Smith from Kagman High School was accepted to the prestigious National High School Scholars based in Atlanta, Georgia.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A student from Kagman High School was chosen to join an esteemed educational organization called the National Society of High School Scholars.

On March 8, 2018 the National Society of High School Scholars chair Claes Nobel announced that they have officially accepted Kagman High School senior Nathaley C. Smith into their esteemed

organization based in Atlanta, Georgia for her superior academic achievements.

The NSHSS society recognizes top scholars who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, scholarship, and community involvement.

According to Nobel, he is honored to welcome Smith into their society for her extraordinary demonstration of leadership, sacrifice, and commitment as seen in her application.

"Nathaley is now a member of a unique community of scholars ... a community that represents our very best hope for the future," he said.

Smith's parents, Nixon and Lorenza Smith, are beyond proud of their daughter for the membership she was granted into such a prestigious organization.

"We are very proud of our daughter's accomplishments. She has been a goal achiever since elementary school. She is currently a senior at KHS and she wants to become a school counselor," said Lorenza.

NSHSS members automatically become lifetime members after their initial acceptance. According to NSHSS president James W. Lewis, members of the NSHSS are given the opportunity to connect with other outstanding scholars and are equipped with the needed resources to develop their strengths and pursue their passion.

"We are proud to provide lifetime membership to young scholars to support their growth and development... we aim to help students like Nathaley build on their academic success by connecting them with unique learning experiences and resources to help prepare them for college and meaningful careers," he said.

The NSHSS society is currently comprised of a million scholars that come from 160 different countries.



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NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

The CNMI Department of Labor ("DOL") announces that Employers must comply with the following Employment Rules and Regulations Subchapter 80-20 of Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC).

Any violation of these Regulations may result in payment of fines, denial for Certificate of Good Standing, and other sanctions by the Department of Labor.

1. Post Job Vacancy Announcements (JVA) on DOL Website.

DOL Regulations require employers who are hiring or renewing CW-1 status workers on a full-time basis to post Job Vacancy Announcements on the website (www.marianaslabornet.net). See DOL Regulations at the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code ("NMIAC") § 80-20.1-225(a).

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) requires Employers to submit evidence that the job vacancy announcement (JVA) was posted on the DOL (JVA) website.

No waiver is available with respect to the job vacancy announcement requirement. [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-225(e)].

2. File Quarterly Compliance Documents.

- Copy of Business License.
- Copy of Annual Corporate Report.
- Copy of 3 latest Quarterly Business Gross Revenue Tax (BGRT).
- Copy of 3 latest Quarterly Employer's Withholding Tax Return (EWTR).
- Total Workforce Listing.

DOL Regulations require employers to submit information on a quarterly basis regarding "the number and classification of employees for whom wages were paid during the quarter." [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-505 et seq.] The Department requires employers to submit this information in a document called the "Total Workforce Listing."

Employers are required to file a Total Workforce Listing on a quarterly basis, due on the last day of the month following the quarter.

- 1st Quarter (January—March) due on April 30
- 2nd Quarter (April—June) due on July 31
- 3rd Quarter (July—September)...due on October 31
- 4th Quarter (Oct.—December)...due on January 31

ATTENTION: The Total Workforce Listing for the 1st Quarter of 2018 is due on April 30, 2018.

f) Workforce Plan.

DOL Regulations require all employers who employ nonimmigrant aliens (e.g., CW-1 status employees) to file an updated Workforce Plan every 12 months. [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-510].

The Workforce Plan form is available on the DOL website (www.marianaslabor.net/forms).

The objective of the Workforce Plan is to increase the percentage of U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents and/or CNMI permanent residents in the workforce of the employer. The plan shall include a timetable for accomplishing the replacement of nonimmigrant employees with qualified citizens, U.S. permanent residents and/or CNMI permanent residents. [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-510(a-b)]. For a description of exemptions and loss of exemptions to Workforce Plan, refer to [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-510, para (d) 1-31"].

g) Workforce Participation — Minimum Percentage

DOL Regulations and statutes [3 CMC § 4525(a)] require all employers to maintain a full-time workforce in which a minimum of thirty percent (30%) of the full-time employees are U.S. citizens, CNMI permanent residents and/or U.S. permanent residents. [3 CMC § 4525(a) and Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-210(c)(3)].

Failure to maintain a minimum percentage of 30% may result in a Notice of Violation filed against the employer.

PHI Pharmacy is major sponsor for MMAC 2018

PHI Pharmacy has recommit-
ted to be a major sponsor for
the Marianas March Against
Cancer, marking another year
of dedication to the CNMI's
fight against cancer.

Major sponsorship is given
to one company or organiza-
tion that has made a donation

KagES Kindergarten enrollment starts

Kagman Elementary School
is pleased to announce open
registration for Kindergarten
student for School Year 2018-
2019 from 8am to 3pm during
the entire month of April or
until slots filled.

Please provide the follow-
ing documents when registering
your child. Please note that
your child will not be regis-
tered if incomplete documents
are submitted. In addition, your
child must be 5 years old by
Sept. 30, 2018 in order to be
eligible for Kinder registration.

Things to submit for regis-
tration:

1. Submit completed PSS
registration form
2. Submit copy of birth cer-
tificate
3. Submit copy of health in-

worth over \$1,000 in cash or
in-kind services.

This year, the corporation has
pledged \$1,000 in monetary do-
nations to MMAC 2018.

"Thank you to PHI Phar-
macy for continuing to sup-
port the community through
MMAC. PHI has been provid-

insurance

4. Submit health certificate
(original)

5. Submit legal guardian-
ship/power of attorney (if ap-
plicable) **(PR)**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 26th birthday to Jes-
sica R. Flores. Live, laugh,
and love, and continue being
perfect and beautiful.

a true community event. PHI
has continued to support this

cause as an extension of what
they do for our islands every

single day," said MMAC 2018
co-chair Carline Sablan. **(PR)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PHI Pharmacy staff poses with Marianas March Against Cancer organizing committee members after agreeing anew to be a major sponsor of the fundraising event.

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Northern Marianas College's Charter Day Planning Committee is reminding interested community members that the Proa Factor talent competition auditions will be held today, Friday, April 6, 2018, at 6pm in NMC's Room D1.

Entry forms for solo performances or groups smaller than

eight members are due by 3pm this afternoon.

All bands and dance groups of more than eight members must submit a video recording of their audition to compete. A video submission is strictly for bands and large dance groups only. The video submission deadline

NMC Charter Day auditions today

by 12pm this afternoon and the video can be sent to charter.day@marianas.edu.

Those who are interested can log on to www.marianas.edu to access the online form. Paper applications are avail-

able at NMC's cashier window and can also be submitted at the cashier window.

Singers, dancers, dance groups, slam poets, musicians, bands, DJs, and other talented performers are encouraged to audition.

Interested individuals or groups must be 12 and older

to compete. Top contestants will perform at Charter Day on April 13, 2018.

The Charter Day festivities will kick off at 4pm and will continue until 10pm at the NMC South Field in As Terlaje on Friday, April 13, 2018. The event will feature various entertainment and

competitions. Numerous vendors will also be selling food and drinks, as well as hosting game booths.

Contact Kenneth Gabrido at charter.day@marianas.edu, call 237-6770 for more details about the PROA Factor Talent competition, or visit www.marianas.edu. (PR)

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EVERY SUNDAY, DOOR OPEN 2PM, GAMES STARTS 2:30PM

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NMC

Northern Marianas College's Charter Day Planning Committee is reminding interested community members that the Proa Factor talent competition auditions are today at 6pm in NMC's Room D1. In the photo is local rapper YGodhy Taitingfong, one of last year's top finalist at Charter Day's first Proa Factor talent competition.

Search begins for 2018 Liberation Day Queen

Celebrating peace and diversity for 73 years, the 2018 Liberation Day Committee kicks

off its official search for the 2018 Liberation Day Royal Court today and calls on the community's eligible young women to help make the islands' largest event a success.

This year's theme is "Sea to Shining Sea," celebrating the International Year of the Coral Reef and the islands' oceanic heritage and cultures.

Applications are now available at the Saipan Mayor's Office website at www.saipanmayor.net or via email at nmiliberation@gmail.com. Deadline to apply is on Monday, April 16, 2018.

"We are very excited to offer this opportunity to our young women—this is our largest community event that has great support locally and internationally and we encourage all those interested to apply," said Saipan Mayor David Apatang.

Community involvement will be the guiding principle in organizing the 2018 Liberation Day Royal Court and other main activities. Young females from the ages of 14 to 22 years old are encouraged to join and boost their portfolio as an active community volunteer.

The 2018 Liberation Day Royal Court contestant criteria is 14-22 years old female, not married, no children, a CNMI resident for at least six months, good academic standing and of good moral and ethical character.

Each candidate will have the ability to sell Liberation Day Raffle Tickets to raise funds and host other various approved fundraisers.

Twenty percent of each of the candidates' total fundraising proceeds will go to the respective candidate.

The 2018 Liberation Day Committee is preparing the official raffle tickets with a \$10,000 grand prize and other smaller prizes that will be released by the third week of April, along with the deadline for contestants to sign up for the 2018 Liberation Day Royal Court competition.

The Liberation Day Royal Court titleholders are determined by the amount of money each candidate raises through the sale of raffle tickets.

For more information or contestant application forms, please email nmiliberation@gmail.com or visit www.saipanmayor.net. (PR)

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MCS welcomes Merfalen as new vice principal

Mount Carmel School announced this week that it had hired Barbara Merfalen as its new vice principal.

Merfalen comes to the school with degrees in education and about three decades of experience in K-12 and higher education as both an instructor and an administrator. Merfalen holds a Bachelors of Arts degree in Elementary Education from the University of Guam, a graduate studies in Administration and Supervision from the University of Guam, and a Masters of Education in International Studies from Framingham University. In the 1990s and early 2000s, she taught in the CNMI Public School system, where she was eventually appointed to lead Kagman Elementary School as its vice principal. In 2006, Merfalen was hired as an instructor at Northern Marianas

College's School of Education. While at the college, she rose to serve as director for the School of Education and eventually as the college's dean of academic programs and services.

Upon leaving Northern Marianas College, Merfalen was sought after by many organizations on island, but she decided to come to Mount Carmel School. When asked why she made that decision, Merfalen said, "I felt guided by God to return to my roots as an educator in early childhood and elementary education, but especially in a Catholic school." In addition to her experience in education, Merfalen has been very active in her parish as a minister and as a Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) teacher.

Since coming to the school, Merfalen has been very happy.

As she put it, "I don't know how to put it in words, but it feels good being here. I feel respected, appreciated, and welcomed. It feels like home."

Looking forward, Merfalen plans to improve instructional quality by helping faculty grow professionally. "Every student can learn, but I also believe that every teacher and staff can learn, including myself." In particular, Merfalen intends to use and share research-based strategies for best practices in teaching and learning.

Merfalen also noted, "Just as the school's mission is to educate the whole person to see with Christ's eyes, I hope to also lead by example in how I treat my colleagues."

School principal Frances Taimanao has worked with Merfalen before in the CNMI Public School System. "She

accomplished a lot in starting our school community in Kagman, and she knows many of the other PSS veterans that are here at Mount Carmel School," said Taimanao.

She added, "We all respect and love her and are so excited

that she is joining our family!"

School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero is also very happy that Merfalen agreed to join the school's leadership team. He said, "Mrs. Merfalen is an accomplished educator and leader who is respected

by virtually everyone in our community." He added, "She brings a wealth of skill, expertise, and experience that will undoubtedly help our teachers and students, and she does everything with a big heart and a warm smile." (PR)

MTEC scholarship applications open



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Southern High School graduate Renafe Inaga receives the Marianas Tourism Education Council scholarship in May 2017. Pictured from left are MTEC board member Glenn Policare, MTEC chair Vicky Benavente, Inaga, and MTEC board member Larry Lee.

The Marianas Tourism Education Council is accepting applications for the MTEC Scholarship Program, aimed at encouraging graduating high school seniors to pursue higher education.

The MTEC board will award a \$2,000 scholarship and a \$1,000 scholarship for two seniors from the class of 2018 who have been members of a MY WAVE Club for at least one year in high school.

"We are encouraging the students to participate in a MY WAVE Club, which they can join starting from the 5th grade up to 12th grade level," said MTEC Chairwoman Vicky Benavente. "The MTEC Scholarship is made possible through the work of

the MTEC Board of Directors and from our generous sponsors and businesses who have a stake in the islands' tourism and hospitality industry.

2017 MTEC Scholarship recipient Renafe Aniga of Saipan Southern High School is studying Hospitality Management at University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

To be eligible, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Have at least 1-year membership in a high school MY WAVE Club

- Submission of official transcript from last high school attended showing GPA of 3.0 or higher

- Recommendation Letter from a current or former Teacher, MY WAVE Club advisor,

counselor, or administrator

- Essay submission from applicant, describing career pathway/goals and purpose of study (300-500 words essay limit, typed)

- Acceptance letter from university or college applied to

- Three (3) proof of MY WAVE CLUB (MWC) active participation

- Submission of the MY WAVE Club/ Community Involvement Summary

Applications are available at the MVA office or by emailing MVA Community Administrative Assistant Demalyn Pagarao (dpagarao@mymarianas.com) or by calling 670.664.3200 for more details. The deadline to apply is 4:30pm on April 30, 2018. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School's new vice principal, Barbara Merfalen, left, works with principal Frances Taimanao in preparing upcoming professional development for school faculty.



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Great Harvest Bread Co.
Culinary Arts Graduate



Ric Cruz
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Kanoa Resort
H & R Program Graduate



Sid Romolor
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Toki Mojica
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Rep. Frank Delacruz
H & R Program Graduate

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The Northern Marianas Trades Institute admits students of any race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the institute. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarships and loan programs, and other institute-administered programs.



Students to learn about ocean exploration using robots

Robots have been used to explore the deepest reaches of the Mariana Trench in recent years. This month, local students will have the chance to

learn the basics of underwater exploration using drones provided by a federal grant.

The Friends of the Mariana Trench Monument are

MVA to introduce European dive media to The Marianas

Diving opportunities in The Marianas will soon be shared with dive enthusiasts throughout Europe via an upcoming media FAM(iliarization) tour hosted by the Marianas Visitors Authority.

On Apr. 9-14, 2018, the MVA will welcome representatives of 11 European dive media outlets for a tour of Rota and Saipan.

"There's no doubt The Marianas has diving options comparable to the best sites elsewhere in the world, as testified by the many international recognitions and awards we have received," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Through the larger international company of our Korea representative office, we have been able to coordinate this large-scale media FAM tour to share our spec-

tacular dive sites with France, Turkey, and Germany. It's one small step toward increasing worldwide awareness of The Marianas as a premiere dive destination."

In addition to diving, the group is scheduled to have a bike tour and beach snorkeling with Marianas Trekking, take a tour of the historic and scenic sites of Marpi, take a UTV tour to Mt. Tapochao with Let's Go Tour, take a sunset dinner cruise, enjoy luxury shopping, and visit various local eateries including Surfclub and Naked Fish.

Participating media will be *Nature Plongee, Oceane, Sub-ocea, Spot My Dive, Pongez!, Plongee TV, SONO TUR, AY-ISIGI DIVING & TRAVEL, Absolut Scuba, Resisecenter Federsee, and Pacific Travel House. (PR)*

Back to Sumay Day to be Held on US Naval Base Guam

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam Commanding Officer Capt. Hans Sholley is inviting former residents of Sumay village and their descendants to the 9th Annual Back to Sumay Day event on NBG April 7.

The annual event, coordinated with the Santa Rita Mayor's Office, began in 2010 by then-base Commanding Officer Capt. Scott Galbreath with the goal of inviting former residents of the pre-World War II village and their descendants back to the site.

A Mass will be held 11am at Clipper Landing Park pavilions on NBG. Following the Mass, there will be a fiesta, music, cultural dancing entertainment and a display of photos dating back to pre-World War II Sumay. During the event, historical tours will be offered in partnership with the mayor's office and

Guampedia.

Former Sumay residents and descendants are also invited to stop by the Sumay Cemetery to pay respect to their family members buried at the site.

Residents with ties to Sumay are asked to contact the Santa Rita Mayor's office at 565-4337 to arrange access to NBG. All guests who do not have regular access to the installation must arrange access through the mayor's office prior to the event. All traffic for Back to Sumay will be welcomed through the NBG back gate.

Sumay village was once known as the "Pearl of the Island" before the war. Evolving from a small fishing village to the agricultural and commercial hub for ships in the mid-1800s, it became an economically rich village by the 1930s. **(PR)**

pleased to announce the selection of facilitators for the Marine Ecology Via Remote Observation Workshop. During this program, facilitators will receive training in the construction, operation, and maintenance of observation-class remotely operate vehicles (ROVs, also known as underwater drones or underwater robots).

Facilitators will then participate in a student-training workshop where they will instruct students from junior high, high schools, Northern Marianas College and Northern Mariana Trades

Institute. Facilitators and students will also have the opportunity to take the robots out for field work at Seatouch in Garapan (and possibly other active research sites in Saipan) to conduct surveys and gain a greater understanding of how underwater robots can be used to complement ocean research and monitoring programs. This model allows not only an intensive STEM-education opportunity for students in Saipan, but by providing training for local and regional facilitators, helps to establish a sus-

tainable, long-term robotics program in the CNMI.

At the conclusion of this program, six ROVs will be presented to select community groups within the CNMI for community-driven ocean monitoring, research, and exploration. This project is being conducted in collaboration with NMTI as the main host along with other community partners including Seatouch and Okeanos Marianas.

The selected facilitators are:

■ Jerry Joseph, 500 Sails/Okeanos Marianas

■ Erin Derrington, Northern Marianas College

■ David Benavente, North-

ern Marianas College

■ Claus Bier, Northern Mariana Trade Institute

■ Rodney Camacho, CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

■ Robert Jordan, Koa Consulting LLC

■ Roy Adsit, Saipan Southern High School

■ Julia Berg, University of Guam Marine Lab

■ The workshop will commence April 14 and end April 22—Earth Day!

This workshop is made possible through a NOAA grant awarded to Dr. Andrew Thaler, a Friends member and marine and conservation scientist. **(PR)**



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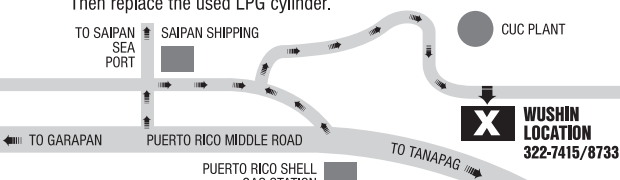


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Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Truth the first casualty every time Trump opens his mouth about DACA and immigrants

It's been a while since we could count on the comments of the president of the United States as factual, even if the facts were strategically selected. And now come President Trump's misleading statements on immigration and the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

Using his favorite medium to discuss important issues with the American public, the president tweeted Monday that "DACA is dead." He then said within Twitter's 280-character limit that it was the Democrats' fault because they "didn't care, or act, and now everyone wants to get on the DACA bandwagon."

Trump suggested it's too late to strike up the band, however, because it's time to "build Wall and secure our borders with proper Border legislation."

This is coming from the same president who in January said, "I hope we're going to come up with an answer for DACA," and promised he would sign the "bill of love." That stance upset conservatives who remembered another promise Trump made, when he was campaigning for president and said he would "immediately terminate" DACA if elected.

Maybe we're all confused about where Trump stands on DACA because he appears to be confused about what the program actually does. In a tweet on Easter, the president claimed "big flows of people" are entering the United States illegally to take advantage of DACA. But the residency program for people who were brought to the United States illegally as children doesn't work like that.

The 700,000 "Dreamers" who qualified to participate in the program created by President Barack Obama had to have arrived in the United States before age 16 and have lived continuously in this country since June 15, 2007. They could then apply for two-year renewals. Furthermore, the Trump administration stopped accepting initial DACA applications in October and has not renewed applications that expired.

One thing Trump did get right is throwing some shade at the Democrats for the Dreamers' plight. They accepted a budget deal that boosted domestic spending without extending DACA, leaving the Dreamers in limbo.

Neither a brief government shutdown in January engineered by the Democrats nor House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi's eight-hour filibuster in February led to a DACA deal. The \$1.3 trillion omnibus spending bill does include billions more for a variety of social programs, including for opioid addiction treatment and election security, but nothing

See TRUTH on Next Page



The 80 Percent Yachts

Despicable how politicians padded their wallets with an 80-percent salary hike while ignoring conditions of 14,000-plus employees literally struggling in the filthy swamp of poverty and below income levels.

How could you skip the needs of the majority who're victims of your inability to ensure that their boats also float alongside your 80 percent yachts? Is it really that difficult sensing their poor familial conditions?

I've probed common sense or what's known in logic as "initial apprehension" to figure out how you must have worked up the gall to ignore the fate of poor people you represent. I can't find an iota of at least some legitimate rationale for your dastardly negligent decision.

While you munch on food you bought at grocery stores most others share family food stamps to make it through another day. You took care of yourself first while ignoring the people who deserve help the most. Must be nice earning \$31,600 in additional income paid for by the people you ignored, right? A double royal screw?

Anyway, it should be a memorable year for incumbents and voters alike. Most of Da Boysis would take their final canoe ride into the sunset of "No Mas!" The voters would give itself the opportunity to bring the voice of "we the people" back to its rightful place. It's the epitome of negligence if I've ever seen one!

Newcomers must have their plans ready for public review. We'd like to see plans to improve the poverty income and below levels of some 14,000 employees. Any clue what this beast entails and have you some realistic solution beyond tons of "biba?"

If you're an incumbent please do the same. You have a responsibility to explain use of your favorite number 80! Isn't there a method to raising salaries, e.g., Composite Price Index? Why the open omission? Anyway, it's the end of your excursion to demagogic dump! No mas!

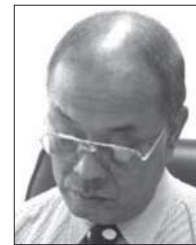
Family home? Under poverty and below conditions it's mind boggling how these families fare paying for the first family home. If there is two income earners it may not be all that bad meeting this obligation.

But what if the sole income earner dies while paying monthly installments for the family home? The family faces a new reality—it can no longer afford paying the loan. The bank moves in and takes over the property forcing displacement of the entire family.

Owning a home is a must as taught to us by our forefathers. It's proof that you are ready to begin your own family. Without it, you end up an island gypsy.

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



It's a mind numbing experience having come close to it three decades ago. In the process I had to expose of yet another property to catch up with monthly installments. If it wasn't for this break in between until I could land a job, I would have been homeless today too. Imagine the situation for the less poised, financially.

The issue requires attention collectively from all offices and agencies dealing with the fate of the indigenous people. There are realistic possibilities to assist those caught by the wraths of insufficient family income to handle paying for the first family home. I've seen it and it hurts the displacement of people I know on a one-on-one basis.

Blessing: Charisma is a highly elusive quality, if not, completely missing from naked perception. It pertains to a person's natural ability to attract, charm, and influence people. Charisma is often said to be a "mysterious ineffable quality—you either have it or you don't..."

I've seen other prominent qualities among politicians but this aspect requires real scrutiny to see its humbling presence. For instance, I watched a certain candidate shake hands with people in and around the canopy who came to listen. Measured against other candidates he lacked eloquence, didn't say much, his Si Yuus Maase was longer than his speech.

But when the chips are down he garnered the most votes! It was his quiet strength that grabbed my attention. What was it that gravitated voters to him? It had to be charisma or his natural charm speaking the simple language of his people with truth.

A few have been endowed or given charisma from upstairs. I find this quality in Kilili and Mayor David Apatang. They've gone up against the best but prevail at day's end. It's from upstairs and when you don't have it, it's best to find something worth your while. It's like the question: do you train leaders or isn't this an innate ability or gift?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immedi-

ately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Springtime in plastic

Springtime means spring cleaning, and this applies to the SOHO (small office, home office) setting as well as the normal household realm. Some might even say that a workspace is a reflection of its owner, so springtime is a good opportunity to refresh this notion.

While I was tidying up for spring I also welcomed a new piece of equipment to my workspace.

The new equipment is a laminating machine. These are common enough items, but, just so nobody feels cheated, I'll note that a laminating machine is an appliance that uses heat to sandwich sheets of paper into a protective covering of transparent plastic.

I'm a real geek for laminated "cheat sheets," which are notes, references, and checklists for various things. For years, well, make that decades, I used to drop my laminating chores off at a copy center, paying a buck or two per page to have them apply that fantastic plastic.

Those costs added up to more than mere beer money over the years, but I didn't want to mess with it myself, nor did I want to figure out how to shoehorn another device into my office space.

But I recently enlarged the surface area of my workspace. It's a law of physics that the amount of equipment in any place must expand to fill any available area. In order to preserve this equilibrium I had to buy something.

I researched small laminating machines. I found that \$50 would easily cover not only a machine but also 100 plastic sheets to go along with it. I figured this was probably too good to be true, but curiosity got the better of me and I took the plunge.

Well, gee, that was painless. The machine proved easy to use and produced results every bit as good as the copy center's machine did.

This was a good excuse to update some cheat sheets. I went on a laminating binge. I've done about 60 sheets so far. Financially then, I'm already ahead of the game. From here on out it's gravy.

Now that I'm a laminating machine owner, with all the rights and privileges thereunto, I'll mention a couple of things.

The plastic laminating sheets seem to come in two common thicknesses: 3 mil and 5 mil. There are 1,000 mils to an inch, so, well, now you know. But, here, it's the comparative, not absolute, concept that's relevant. The point is that 5 mil is thicker than 3 mil, and I've found that 5 mil is sturdier and produces a more likable result.

A stack of 100 such sheets is only an inch thick but it's heavy. The sheets on the bottom are bearing a dead load from their upstairs neighbors. Any crimps or wrinkles might get pressed into fossil-like permanence. With this in mind, I don't want to run the risk of storing them on any surface that isn't flat, hard, and reasonably well-protected. So, while the laminating machine is small, easily unplugged, and easily stashed away, the plastic sheets require a dedicated chunk of shelf space.

That might sound a little over-analytical to some folks, but anyone with scars in the SOHO trenches knows that progress is not easily won. Overall, I'd say that at least 20 percent of my office supplies have died in garrison. Envelopes seal themselves from humidity. Writable CDs and DVDs go bad. Stationery gets creased, splashed with coffee, or becomes the favored haunt of an incontinent gecko. Pens dry up.

dozen senators, representatives and governors are mulling bids. One, Maryland Rep. John Delaney, is formally running.

In addition, some relatively unknown non-Washington figures are weighing the odds that lightning can strike, as it did in 1976 for former Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter. Some will likely run in a year the Democratic nomination will be appealing and the race wide open.

Here are five of the most interesting:

Gov. Steve Bullock of Montana, 51, a Democrat who has succeeded in a red state and is highly regarded by his peers, is making his first Iowa visit next weekend, attending an event for veteran Attorney General Tom Miller.

"I'm excited to go out there for a couple of days, but, by and large, I got the greatest job, certainly in Montana, I think in America," Bullock said. He called his current job, which runs until 2020, "all consuming." While mainly focused on "the weeks and months ahead," he added that he is "certainly not sure what the future will hold in that respect."

Besides being virtually unknown, Bullock lacks an ideological or geographic base for a presidential bid.

Pete Buttigieg, 36, the openly gay mayor of South Bend, Ind., recently added Iowa to states where his political action committee is helping fellow Democrats.

The former Rhodes scholar and Afghanistan vet made a strong impression among party insiders in his unsuccessful 2017 bid for the party chairmanship and speaking to the Progress Iowa Corn Feed last September in Des Moines.

"Things are kind of wide open in a way that hasn't been true in a long time," he told Politico's Off Message podcast. "I think it shows that there's at least curiosity, if not appetite, for what a newer generation of leaders is going to look like."

He may be the longest of the long shots. One reason running nationally is attractive is because Indiana is so Republican it's hard for Democrats to win statewide office; "Mayor Pete" lost a 2010 race for state treasurer.

Former HUD Secretary and San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro, 43, who brings both local and national executive experience, sounds like a candidate, making clear on a recent New Hampshire visit he is giving serious thought to running.

He told NBC News he has "every interest in running," and told his hometown San Antonio Express-News he'll decide by the end of 2018. "I legitimately haven't decided yet," he said.

Touting his experience as mayor and a Cabinet secretary — and, though unstated, clearly inviting a comparison with Trump — he declared, "I've demonstrated an ability to work with both

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



But that's just how it is. I'd rather be caught long than caught short, and I'd rather stock up when stuff is on sale than buy piecemeal quantities in a last-minute hurry. That's worse than wasteful. It's just plain demoralizing.

While I was doing my SOHO spring cleaning I came across a boxed-up photo printer. I had purged a couple of others a long time ago, but this one managed to hide. Well, out it went. For my low utilization, photo printers never really made sense, so, unlike the laminating realm, this is one task I'm still going to take to the store.

But I can mix one with the other now. The next time I have photos printed I'm not going to frame them. No, I'm just going to laminate them and then thumb-tack them to my bulletin board.

My wife told me this is low-brow, cheesy, and totally unacceptable. Hey, just my style! Yes, it's a true reflection of me, indeed. Ain't SOHO grand?

Who's thinking hard about running against Trump in 2020? A look at 5 interesting possibilities

Though President Donald Trump's term has 34 months remaining, it's already more than halfway from Iowa's 2016 presidential caucuses to the next ones. Some two dozen Democrats—and a handful of Republicans—are eyeing 2020 candidacies.

Heading the potential Democratic field are two well-known septuagenarians, Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders. More than a

TRUTH

From Page 14

for the Dreamers.

U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison (D., Minn), co-chair of the Democratic National Committee, said Sunday that his party isn't fazed by Trump's criticism. Ellison responded to Trump, tweeting: "You were never doing a DACA deal. Your actions gave you away: cancelling DACA with no plan, making racist comments about Black/Brown immigrants, ejecting several by bipartisan deals. You didn't fool anybody."

The sniping on Twitter isn't helping the hundreds of thousands of people who have been living and working in this country, paying their taxes, and otherwise being law-abiding neighbors and friends, who must fear deportation until their status is resolved.

Of course, DACA should be extended. But beyond that, Congress needs to update this country's archaic immigration law to address the millions of others who came to this country illegally but have proved they deserve to stay.

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF

The Dallas Morning News

Carl P. Leubsdorf is a columnist for The Dallas Morning News. Readers may email him at carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.



sides of the aisle" and shown "an ability to get things done and to make level-headed decisions."

Like Buttigieg, home-state Republican strength makes national office a better bet than running statewide.

Former Missouri Secretary of State Jason Kander, 36, easily the most active potential 2020 Democratic hopeful, will make his 12th Iowa visit this month and headline a major New Hampshire Democratic fundraiser.

After narrowly losing a 2016 Missouri Senate race, he formed the group Let America Vote, to fight Republican efforts to curb voting, giving him a ticket to travel widely. Now he has created organizations — staffed by presidential campaign veterans — in five states, including the first three states on the nominating calendar.

Still, it's hard to believe that Democrats would pick someone whose highest elected office was secretary of state in an election that may spotlight Trump's inexperience and ineptness.

Mitch Landrieu, 57, the outgoing New Orleans mayor who removed four Confederate monuments, likens Trump to David Duke, the neo-Nazi he once fought in Louisiana's Legislature.






In his forthcoming book, "In the Shadow of Statues: A White Southerner Confronts History," Landrieu writes that, while "Trump is not a Nazi," he "has courted white nationalists as Duke did and like Duke, he speaks and tweets a fountain of lies, lying as naturally as normal people try to be truthful."

Of the five, Landrieu seems least likely to run. He has not visited early states and told a Bloomberg breakfast he doesn't intend to be a candidate, but added, "Things could change." He has served 30 years in the Legislature, as lieutenant governor and as mayor, and Democrats have a history of favoring moderate Southerners, like Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton.

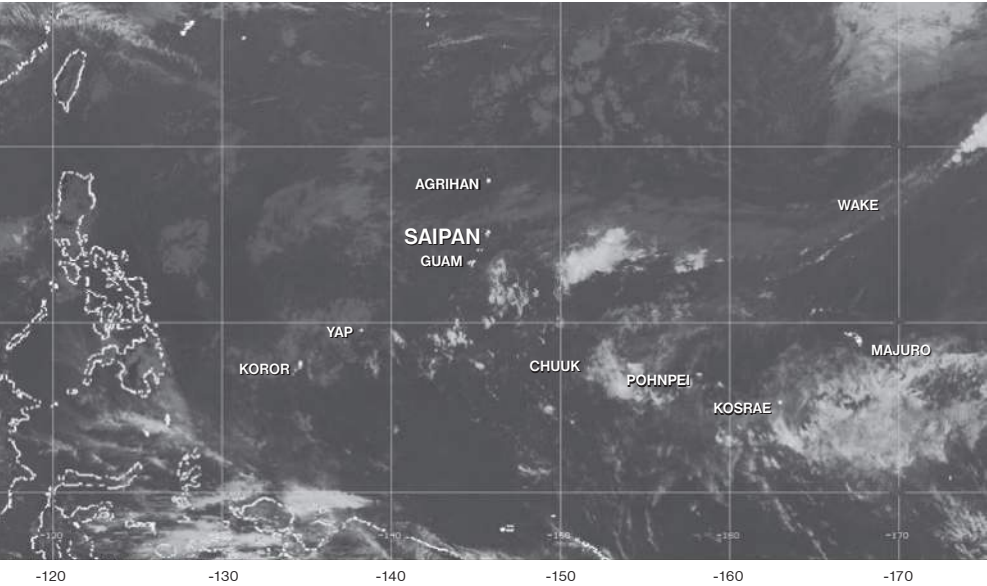
To win the 2020 nomination will take a boatload of money and a willingness to spend much of 2019 seeking the support of activists in Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada. The race is wide open for a newcomer, but the barriers are high.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:22 AM, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trough extending from a circulation southwest of Chuuk is causing the scattered showers southeast of us. GLD360 lightning data shows there are a few thunderstorms in that group also. Most of these showers are progged to slip south of us, so we have a bit of increased clouds, while showers should still remain isolated. At least we got enough rain to drive the KBDI back below 700. The GFS brings a circulation just south of Guam in the far extended. The ECMWF-HiRes has the same system, but is faster and weaker with it. So, while some sort of system looks likely around mid-April, the details are still a bit dubious.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°	
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°	
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	85° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	72° / 61°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	55° / 34°	
Hong Kong	Cloudy	73° / 61°	
Honolulu	Showers	79° / 72°	
London	Partly Cloudy	61° / 48°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	70° / 59°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	73° / 50°	
Miami	Mostly Sunny	79° / 73°	
New York	Showers	59° / 40°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	57° / 45°	
Paris	Sunny	66° / 48°	
Busan	Windy	54° / 37°	
Rome	Sunny	70° / 46°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	77° / 58°	
San Francisco	Rain	59° / 55°	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	50° / 36°	
Tokyo	Cloudy	70° / 48°	
Washington, DC	Windy	68° / 41°	



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- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:02 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.67	
5:45 AM	LOW TIDE	1.06	
10:39 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.65	
6:05 PM	LOW TIDE	0.13	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:09 AM	6:29 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:30 PM
Monday	6:07 AM	6:30 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:30 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	10:20 am	11:31 pm
Saturday	-	11:07 am	-
Sunday	12:20 am	11:55 pm	-
Monday	1:07 AM	12:44 PM	-
Tuesday	1:53 AM	1:34 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 19, 2017							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)				HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1	JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4	JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN	UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7	U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
				UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
ROTA TO GUAM				FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily	2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily	2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
				2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
				2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Ken Corp. begins improvements at CCP

TUMON, Guam—P.H.R. Ken Micronesia, Inc. (Ken Corp.), owners of Country Club of the Pacific Guam in Yona, recently announced it has begun its plans to refresh one of Guam's most treasured golf courses as it prepares to celebrate its 45th anniversary this year. The company also announced that CCP, as it is fondly known by residents and visitors, will be managed by its senior leadership team from Ken Corp. property, Pacific Islands Club Guam.

P.H.R. Ken Micronesia, Inc. president Mitsuo Sato said, "Ken Corp. has officially begun the implementation of its plan to reinvigorate CCP and incorporate it as an integral extension of the hospitality that our hotel guests enjoy. We feel that the addition of PIC's seasoned management team to support golf course operations will have a positive impact on the CCP experience almost immediately."

"CCP has been a longtime favorite for our residents on Guam. Local golfers have grown up on our course, and we host tournaments year-round for local organizations.

We would like to continue to invest and build on these important relationships. This reinvestment will also give the island more leverage in attracting golfers from all over Asia to play on Guam," Sato added.

The hospitality team from PIC has started work on some new service upgrades and programs. Ben Ferguson, PIC general manager, known in the industry for managing Guam's largest hotel and the driving force behind Guam Sports Events, Inc., has taken on the role as CCP general manager to enhance the CCP experience.

"We plan to fuse our hotel operations and asset management experience to be able to offer golfers a heightened golf experience and ignite a renewed love of CCP," Ferguson stated. "Foremost among our objectives is to begin work immediately on enhancing the playability of the course and implementing our plan to restore the most important elements of the golf course, starting with the greens and then moving to the bunker and tee box upgrades."

CCP, which boasts some of

the island's most breathtaking views of southern Guam and the Pacific Ocean, opened in May of 1973 as the island's second golf course. Ken Corp. took over the property in 2007 shortly after it purchased PIC.

"CCP is a beautiful gem of a course with a notable history, and we are thrilled that it will be receiving a facelift this year," added Ferguson. "Our 18-hole championship golf course is known to have the best drainage on island, which means golfers can continue their round even after a downpour. You can see the Pacific Ocean from many of our holes, but we are most known for hole number 12, which has golfers shooting from the men's tee over a pond onto the green. Interestingly, hole No. 14 is the longest Par 5 on island, measuring 624 yards from the champion's tee."

Famous Japanese architect Kisho Kurokawa designed CCP's clubhouse to maximize the panoramic view of the property. In the 1970s, CCP was well known as the "Tai-heiyo Club" to golfers in Japan. CCP holds a certification from the PGA and a certified USGA Course rating by the Guam National Golf Federation. **(PR)**

» PIC to assume management of Yona golf course



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works ENERGY DIVISION

P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4480 / Fax No. (670) 664-4483 / e-mail: cnmienergy@gmail.com



PUBLIC HEARING

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor in cooperation with the Department of Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) will be conducting a public hearing to present the proposed WAP State Plan for Program Year 2018 and is inviting the General Public to attend this important Public Hearing.

The public hearing will be held at the Energy Division office located on Capitol Hill, House No. 1337 on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Individuals who are unable to attend the public hearing in person may submit written comments to the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House No. 1337, Saipan or by e-mail to cnmienergy@gmail.com or by mail to P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 on or before close of business on Wednesday, May 09, 2018.

Copies of the Draft State Plan will be made available at the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House No. 1337 beginning Friday, April 06, 2018.

For more information, you may contact Thelma B. Inos, Energy Director, at 664-4480/81 or you may visit the Energy Division Office on Capitol Hill, Monday to Friday, except holidays, and from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

HINEKKUNGUK PUPBLIKU

I Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha gi Ufisinan Gubietnu yan i ko'operasion i Dipattamentun Che'chu' Pupbliku/Dibision Energy gi Prugraman Asistensian Weatherization (WAP) para u makundudukta hinekkunguk pupbliku ni para u mapresenta i manmaproponi na WAP State Plan para i Prugraman i sakkan 2018 yan ha kumbibida i Pupbliku Henerat para u ma'atendi esti na impottantn Hinekkunguk Henerat.

I hinekkunguk pupbliku para u makundukta gi Dibision Energy, giya Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' #1337, gi Lunes, Abrit 23, 2018, gi oran alas 5:00 gi pupuengi. Todu indibiyuat siha ni ti sumiña umatendi i hinekkunguk henerat siña muna'halum tini'gi' upiñon siha guatu gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' 1337, Saipan pat i email guatu gi cnmienergy@gmail.com pat na'hânão i kattâm-mu guatu gi P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 gi pat ântis di u mahuchum i ufisina gi , Metkoles, Mâyû 09, 2018.

Kopia siha gi Draft State Plan para u mana'guaha gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' 1337 tinituhun gi Betnes, Abrit 06, 2018.

Para mâs imfotmasyon, siña un âgang si Thelma B. Inos, Direktot Energy, gi 664-4480/81 pat siña un bisita i Ufisinan Dibision Energy giya Capitol Hill, Lunis asta Betnis, fuera di holidays, yan gi oran alas 11:30 gi egga'an asta alas 12:30 gi dispues di talu'âni.

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP:

Bwulasiyol Sów Lemelem. Iól Commonwealth wól Téél Fáluw kka Faluwasch Efáng Marianas fengál me alilisil Bwulasiyool Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) e bwe ayoora eew arongorong reer toulap bwelle e bwe apasa rel pommol WAP State Plan rel Program Year 2018.

Arongorong yeel e bwe fis me rel Energy Division me Capitol Hill, House #1337, wóól Lunnis, Seeta 23, 2018, óttol 5:00 p.m.

Schóókka rese tawe re bwe fiti arong yeel, e mmwel schagh u bwe iischilong mááfíyómw rel Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House # 1337, Seipél: ngäre e-mail ngáli: cnmienergy@gmail.com me ngäre afanga ngáli P.O.Box 500340, Seipél, MP 96950 wóól me ngäre mmwal igha ebwe titilól ótool angaang wól Merkulis, Ghuuû 09, 2018.

Kkopiya Draft Plan yeel nge emmwal rebwe bweibwogh me Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House #1337, wóól Bennis, Seeta 06, 2018.

Rel kkapasal, e mmwel ów bwe fafingi ló llemwáar ye Thelma B. Inos, Energy Director, rel 664-4480/81 me ngäre igha u bwe mwette ló rel Bwulasiyol Energy Division ye e llo Capitol hill, Luunis mwette ngáli Bennis, saabw holidays, me ótool 11:30 a.m. ngáli 12:30 p.m.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-18-003

LOWER BASE SEWER PHASE 1 – LIFT STATION AND FORCEMAIN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Lower Base Sewer Phase 1 – Lift Station and Forcemain in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of a lift station and forcemain, a new generator building, new and tapping into the existing forcemain. The work also includes the installation of air relief valves, gate valves, and asphalt pavement restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Economic Development Authority (USEDA) and the Department of Interior (USDOL). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USED A and USDOL.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **April 10th, 2018 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. Prospective Bidders are mandated to attend the Pre-Bid Conference and Site Visit.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-18-003, Lower Base Sewer Phase 1- Lift Station and Forcemain" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 2nd, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 18th, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christie L. Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Assistant via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org and to Travis Spaeth, CUC Project Engineer via email address travis.spaeth@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR

AIRPORT GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (AGIS) SURVEY SERVICES BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

PROJECT NO. CPA-RA-001-18 (AIP Pending)

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Airports Geographical Information Systems (AGIS) Services for the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

These services are being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and CPA. This service procurement is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the RFQ package.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, April 13, 2018, 5:00 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Capability to perform all or most aspects of the services with a minimum of three (3) years' experience with AGIS and Airport Improvement Programs. **(WEIGHT 30)**
2. Ability to implement an AGIS Obstruction Survey and Airport Airspace Analysis. **(WEIGHT 20)**
3. Key personnel's professional background and successful relevant experience in AGIS projects comparable to the proposed services. **(WEIGHT 20)**
4. Demonstrated ability to meet AGIS standards, NGS requirements, and Airport Master Plan standards. **(WEIGHT 10)**
5. Ability to complete services within schedule without having major extensions, cost escalations, overruns, or disputed claims. **(WEIGHT 10)**
6. Quality of projects previously undertaken that are comparable to proposed services. **(WEIGHT 10)**

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf format of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **5:00 p.m., MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2018**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: April 3, 2018

Samsung Card Movie Trip highlights Marianas Fun

To position The Marianas as an exciting and fun leisure travel destination for the younger generation, the Marianas Visitors Authority held a movie trip co-op promotion with Samsung Card Young Lab on March 9-13, 2018, introducing Saipan Marathon 2018 and the natural beauty of The Marianas.

Samsung Card Young Lab, Samsung Card's CSR program targeting young people in their 20-30s, recruited seven teams (21 persons in total) of young videographers

in various travel categories to create their own video content while experiencing the Saipan Marathon and traveling to Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

The participants applied their own editorial style to produce film footage of people enjoying the fun of Saipan Marathon. Some wore superhero suits like Ironman and Captain America from Marvel Comics. Others wore Korean traditional women scuba-diving suits or flower-patterned dresses implying natural beauty of The Marianas. Par-

ticipants also experienced stargazing at Banzai Cliff and sampling Saipan Brewing Company's local beer at Naked Fish Bar and Grill.

After the marathon, the visitors were divided into two groups, one visiting Rota and another visiting Tinian. Four teams who travelled to Tinian had an ATV tour and snorkeled at Long Beach while filming photogenic spots including Broadway, Tinian Blow Hole, and Turtle Cove. They especially loved the sunset beach barbeque at Tachogna, right

in front of Tinian Ocean View Hotel where they stayed.

The other three teams who wanted to film underwater scenes spent three days in Rota. Staying at Rota Resort and Country Club, they had an opportunity to experience snorkeling at Coral Garden, trolling fishing in Sasanhaya Bay, and enjoying a local style barbeque dinner and bonfire at

the resort.

"Throughout this campaign, both Samsung Card Young Lab and our MVA media exposure in Korea reached 1.5 million people through Facebook, website, eDMs and application advertisements," said MVA Marketing manager Broc Calvo. "And now, the resulting footage by seven teams will be voted on by 380,000

followers via Samsung Card Young Lab's Facebook page. This is generating powerful engagement by online consumers who are interested in travel and leisure, and we look forward to awarding the winners on Apr. 27."

The tour was also supported by Naked Fish Bar & Grill, Tinian Ocean View Hotel, and Tinian Good Tour. **(PR)**



MVA

Participants in Samsung Card Young Lab, Samsung Card's CSR program targeting young people in their 20-30s, document their experience at the Saipan Marathon 2018 on March 10, 2018, in The Marianas.



MVA

Participants in Samsung Card Young Lab visit Tinian Blowhole in March 2018 while preparing movies of their experiences in The Marianas.

70-year-old woman medevaced from cruise ship off Maui

HONOLULU—A 70-year-old Australian woman arrived safely to Maui Memorial Medical Center, Tuesday, after being medically evacuated from a cruise ship off Maui.

An MH-65 Dolphin helicopter aircrew from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point hoisted the woman from the cruise ship Regatta and safely transported her to Kahului Airport in Maui where local emergency medical services personnel were waiting.

She was transferred to the hospital in stable condition.

"We commend the medical staff of the Regatta for recog-

nizing that the woman needed immediate medical attention," said Petty Officer 1st Class Luis Garcia, a watchstander at Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu. "Due to the quick actions of the Regatta and our Coast Guard crews, this woman was able to get the appropriate medical care she needed."

At 1:37pm, Monday, JRCC watchstanders received a request from the captain of the Regatta regarding a passenger who was experiencing severe abdominal pains.

JRCC watchstanders consulted a Coast Guard flight

surgeon who recommended an immediate medical evacuation. The Regatta was 276 miles from Maui en route back to San Diego at the time of the initial notification. They diverted back to Maui to come within range for the Dolphin aircrew to facilitate the medevac.

At 3:35am, the Dolphin aircrew conducted a hoist from the Regatta. As a safety precaution due to unfavorable weather conditions, an HC-130 Hercules aircrew from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point was also on scene to provide cover. **(USCG)**



MVA

Participants in Samsung Card Young Lab, Samsung Card's CSR program targeting young people in their 20-30s, document their experience at the Saipan Marathon 2018 on March 10, 2018, in The Marianas. Members of the group also visited Tinian and Rota as part of their movie-making FAM(iliarization) tour of the islands organized by Marianas Visitors Authority.



MVA

Participants in Samsung Card Young Lab, Samsung Card's CSR program targeting young people in their 20-30s, document their experience at the Saipan Marathon 2018 on March 10, 2018, in The Marianas. Members of the group also visited Tinian and Rota as part of their movie-making FAM(iliarization) tour of the islands organized by Marianas Visitors Authority.



MVA

Participants in Samsung Card Young Lab visit Rota in March 2018 while preparing movies of their experiences in The Marianas.

NCD adopts a bus stop, pavilion

The Non-Communicable Disease Bureau has completed their Adopt-A-Pavilion and Adopt-A-Bus Stop in which they strive to promote health through messaging in

the community.

NCDB adopted the Oleai Pavilion located by The Shack. This project was completed in partnership with the Community Guid-

ance Center-Hali Inaguiya Systems of Care. Alongside the organization, 30 students from Marianas High School's National Honor Society volunteered their time.

The pavilion was painted with information to promote health and health literacy related to the risks of non-communicable diseases, a leading cause of death in the CNMI. These messages included information on health eating, physical activity, quitting tobacco-use, and

getting regular health screenings. The NCD Bureau emphasizes that even simple lifestyle changes can greatly reduce the risks for NCDs.

The Community Guidance Center-Systems of Care promotional message, "it's just a bad day, not a bad life" aims to raise awareness about mental health. One of SOC's program goal is to raise awareness by promoting positive messages to decrease the stigma on mental health. SOC's mission is to

promote the improvement of care and opportunity for youth with, and youth at-risk of emotional/behavioral challenges through improved collaboration between youth and family serving groups.

The NCD Bureau partnered with Dandan Middle School's AmeriCorps members, Collin Flores and Ruth Pangelinan, to adopt the bus stop across Jin Li Store in Dandan village. The bus stop design and painting were spearheaded by Flores and

Pangelinan with guidance and assistance from their advisors, the NCD Bureau, and Dandan Middle School's National Honor Society members. Flores and Pangelinan chose a Pac-Man theme for the bus stop, which they used to encourage healthy eating through increased fruits and vegetable daily intake.

The NCD Bureau hopes to continue partnering with the community for projects like these that not only promote health but help with the beautification of the island. For any questions, contact Hannah Isabel Shai at (670) 236-8710. **(PR)**

Bordallo accepting submissions for Congressional Art Competition

HAGÄTÑA, Guam—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) and the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency recently announced the start of the annual 2018 Congressional Art Competition. The Congressional Art Competition is a nation-wide annual high school arts competition sponsored by the Congressional Institute and Members

work from across the nation can be viewed at the official Congressional Art Competition website: http://www.house.gov/content/education/art_competition/.

All artwork submitted will be judged by a panel of local artists. Artwork will be displayed in a local show on island and the winner will have his or her artwork displayed for an eleven month exhibit in the Cannon tunnel that leads to the U.S. Capitol Building. The winning artist will also travel to Washington, D.C. to attend the official reception for the Congressional Art Competition.



Bordallo

Bordallo invites all Guam high school students to participate in the competition. Each school may submit individual entries of up to 20 students for the local competition. All pieces must be original and not submitted in prior Congressional Art Competitions. All entries must be accompanied by the Student Information/Release Form with the required signatures. All entries must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 27, 2018 to the Guam Congressional District Office, located in the Capitol Plaza Building, 120 Father Duenas Avenue, Suite 107 in Hagåtña.

Additional information and 2018 Art Competition, additional information, forms, and samples of art-

"Guam has such a budding and diverse art community and I invite all of our high school students to participate in this worthwhile event. I am always so proud to see the submissions from our local high school students, which highlight the talents and passions of our youth. Each year participants are given this opportunity to showcase Guam's rich history, culture and heritage and I and I look forward to their contributions. The winner's artwork will be displayed yearlong in the U.S. Capitol tunnel, where thousands of visitors will get a glimpse of our island home in our nation's capital." **(PR)**

Bordallo pleased with United's Guam exemption from Petsafe suspension

HAGÄTÑA, Guam—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) recently issued the following statement on United Airlines' exemption for Guam for the suspension of its PetSafe program. United will permit members of the military and their spouses, and State Department Foreign Service Personnel and their spouses, to travel with or ship their pets out of Guam between April 3 and 30.

"I am very pleased that United Airlines is working to accommodate Guam

families and their pets, including our military service members who are re-deployed. I continue working with the Defense Department, other federal agencies, and all airlines serving Guam to ensure that our pets can travel safely with their families off island. As a lifelong animal lover and member of the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus, I am committed to ensuring that our four-legged family members get the humane treatment they deserve by the airlines." **(PR)**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN)
MARIANAS HOUSING)
CORPORATION,)
Plaintiff,)
-v-) CIVIL ACTION
The Estate of) NO. 12-0229
ENRIQUE ILO WABOL;)
and LYDIA LUCAS WABOL,)
aka LYDIA ILISARI LUCAS,)
Defendants.)

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 8, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot no. 002 G 241, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat no. 002 G 07 dated May 31, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 90-1904, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, April 27, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 26th day of March, 2018.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS)
HOUSING CORPORATION,)
Plaintiff,)
-v-) CIVIL ACTION
The Estate of) NO. 16-0131
GABRIEL D. DELA CRUZ)
and ROSA M. DELA CRUZ,)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on March 27, 2018, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot no. 005 1 516, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 743 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 2084/82, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document no. 14232 dated May 14, 1982, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, April 27, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 26th day of March, 2018.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS)
HOUSING CORPORATION,)
Plaintiff,)
-v-) CIVIL ACTION
JOAQUIN B. CAMACHO) NO. 17-0016
AND RAMON S. CAMACHO)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on March 27, 2018, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot no. 010 k 216, situated in Dandan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 812 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 010 K 01, dated August 19, 1987, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 87-2909, the description herein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, April 27, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED this 28th day of March, 2018:

MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Amelia T. Castro
Beach Road, Chalan Piao
234-8833 / 285-4187

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE)
GUARDIANSHIP OF) FCD GU CIVIL
MARTIN T. CASTRO JR.) ACTION
An Incompetent) NO. 18-0132
BY)
AMELIA T. CASTRO) NOTICE OF
Petitioner) HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardianship for the above-named by Amelia T. Castro, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at the CNMI Judiciary, before Judge Teresa K. Kim-Tenorio on the 30th day of April, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 217A or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@ptic.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

INVITATION TO BID CPA-ITB-005-18

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 27, 2018 TIME: 4:00 P.M.

"PROCUREMENT, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF ONE (1) ENERGY EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL AIR COOLED PACKAGE A/C UNIT AT THE BENJAMIN T. MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ROTA

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING APRIL 06, 2018.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: "ITB FOR THE PROCUREMENT, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF ONE (1) ENERGY EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL AIR COOLED PACKAGE A/C UNIT AT THE BENJAMIN T. MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ROTA (ITB-005-18)". BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Northern Marianas College Procurement & Property Management Office

P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 237-6824 ext. 23/22 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS NMC IFB 18-006

PARKING LOT DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Northern Marianas College (The College) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Parking Lot Drainage Improvement Project for the As Terlaje, Saipan Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, March 12, 2018, between the hours of 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Submissions are due no later than 10:00 a.m., April 13, 2018, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: May request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement & Property Manager

A Land Grant Institution accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and by The Senior Commission for Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

CNMI JROTC Spring Leadership Camp a success

The CNMI JROTC Spring Leadership Camp, hosted by Kagman High School, was held at Saipan Southern High School from March 23 to 26, 2018 was an outstanding success.

All five high schools—Rota, Marianas, Tinian, Kagman, and Saipan Southern high schools—and seven Army instructors participated in full force for the military style leadership training and friendly competition.

The 124 cadets went through rigorous events like land navigation, where cadets were tasked to find four points with a compass to earn their orienteering badge and ribbon. The other events included drown-proofing at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool; summing competition; a land rope bridge crossing; a leadership reaction course, where cadets had to negotiate obstacles; and first-aid CPR training to save lives.

After all of that excitement, each school JROTC teams competed in basketball, with SSSHS winning first place; volleyball with RHS taking first place; Tap Out, the skill of drill marching, was tested with Rota sweeping the competition winning first place; and then swim-



The awards ceremony of the CNMI JROTC Spring Leadership Camp.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Cadets take part in drown-proof training.

ming where the KHS male swimmers swam the full length of the pool and took first place with Rota winning the female first place that swam half the distance of the pool.

Later an award ceremony was held, where Board of Education member Herman Atalig with the SSSHS principal Vince Delacruz handed out 14 trophies in total.

The camp ended with a night of fun, where cadets had a talent show and socializing with a pizza party that topped it off for all who attended the CNMI JROTC camp. (PR)



Cadets take part in the rope/knot tying training.



Cadets take part leadership reaction course.



Cadets take part in the rope bridge exercise.



Cadets take part in poncho raft training.



A cadet undergoes cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

The Star Cruises' *SuperStar Virgo* takes pride in its magnificent atmosphere that is inspired by the Genting Group's idea of luxury and magnificence.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Participants of Resorts World Manila's 2018 fam tour pose for a photo while exploring the enormous *SuperStar Virgo*.

A day aboard *SuperStar Virgo*

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Second of a four-part series

A day aboard the *SuperStar Virgo* is like none you could ever imagine with the amount of activities offered to the hospitality of the vessel's crew and the mouth-watering food served to each guest.

As part of the Resorts World Manila's familiarization tour from March 5 to 10, participants from Saipan, Guam, and Hawaii were taken aboard one of Genting Hong Kong's open ocean cruise vessels that have made Manila its home port, the *SuperStar Virgo*.

Genting Hong Kong is a major stakeholder of RWM and is a leading leisure, entertainment, and hospitality enterprise within South East Asia.

Its primary business activities are cruises and cruise-related operations under the brand of Star Cruises and Norwegian Cruise Lines. Star Cruises together with NCL, is the third largest cruise operator in the world with a combined fleet of 19 ships cruising to over 200 destinations worldwide, offering close to 39,000 lower berths.

Upon boarding the *SSV*, fam tour participants were immediately greeted by a diverse and beyond-accommodating staff.

The staff was helpful and strived to make the boarding process as smooth as possible despite the influx of cruise goers.

Aboard the vessel, new fam tour participants were left in a daze at the ship's grandeur. The vessel's floors were lined with velvet red, blue, or green carpets that were accented with touches



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As part of *SuperStar Virgo's* cruise package, cruisers are given complimentary breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals in *SSV's* Star Dining hall.

of gold and browns.

The cabins, although not as spacious as one may be accustomed to, were comfortable enough and mimicked your standard hotel room.

On the first day aboard *SSV*, fam tour guests along with a thousand other cruisers were mandated to join the vessel's safety training so that every individual is aware of what is to be done in case of emergencies.

After 20 minutes of safety training, cruisers were dismissed to do as they pleased and to explore the vessel.

Following the training, the *SSV* fam tour participants were brought to Star Dining, *SSV's* largest restaurant. Media outlets from Guam, Hawaii, CNMI, and travel agents invited to participate in the fam tour were treated to a gourmet three-course meal. Afterwards, fam tour guests were dismissed to explore what the vessel had in stored while

traveling on high seas.

Over 13 different bars and restaurants were placed in every deck. Guests aboard the *SSV* were welcome to try the array of cuisines the vessel had to offer from Chinese cuisine, to Indian cuisine, to Filipino,

the diversity was uncanny.

On board the *SSV*, cruisers can take advantage of the many activities offered. Fam tour participants availed of a few of the many activities.

The vessel offers a great quality, 24-hour gym and a bas-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The *SuperStar Virgo* offers an array of restaurants and bars that Resorts World Manila 2018 fam tour participants were able to try out throughout the five-day summer cruise.

ketball court for cruisers who choose to burn off the calories put on from all the amazing choices of food offered.

The *SSV* crew also put on live shows for the entire five-day cruise in intervals. The shows were performed at the Zodiac Theater, which could accommodate over 1,000 viewers.

Activities such as bingo, poker, slot machines, and more were open for cruisers who felt they could test their luck and double their bets.

Other activities such as creating portraits out of paint

were also offered. The Star Navigator was passed out for cruisers to remain aware of all the great experiences that *SSV* offers because Star Cruises believes that it is not about the destination, it's about the journey.

For individuals interested in choosing the *SuperStar Virgo* for their next getaway, feel free to contact Star Cruises marketing executive Lynch Imbat at (02) 836-6000 loc. 6179 /+63917 6370794 or email her at jan.imbat@gentingcruise-lines.com for current and upcoming promotions.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Aboard the *SuperStar Virgo*, cruisers are welcome to witness a variety of epic live shows put on by the Star Cruises throughout the five-day cruise.

Business

US, China threaten tariffs as fears rise

WASHINGTON (AP)—The world's two biggest economies stand at the edge of the most perilous trade conflict since World War II. Yet there's still time to pull back from the brink.

Financial markets bounced up and down Wednesday over the brewing U.S.-China trade war after Beijing and Washington proposed tariffs on \$50 billion worth of each other's products in a battle over the aggressive tactics China employs to develop its high-tech industries.

"The risks of escalation are clear," Adam Slater, global economist at Oxford Economics, wrote in a research note. "Threats to the U.S.-China relationship are the most dangerous for global growth."

There's time for the two countries to resolve the dispute through negotiations in the coming weeks. The United States will not tax 1,300 Chinese imports—from hearing aids to flamethrowers—until it has spent weeks collecting public comments. It's likely to get an earful from American farmers and businesses that want to avoid a trade war at all costs.

Also, China did not say when it would impose tariffs on 106 U.S. products, including soybeans and small aircraft, and it announced it is challenging America's import duties at the World Trade Organization.

Lawrence Kudlow, the top White House economic adviser, sought to ease fears of a deepening trade conflict with China, telling reporters that the tariffs the U.S. announced Tuesday are "potentially" just a negotiating ploy.

"We're very lucky that we have the best negotiator at the table in the president, and we're going to go through that process," said White House press secretary

Sarah Huckabee Sanders. "It will be a couple months before tariffs on either side would go into effect and be implemented, and we're hopeful that China will do the right thing."

The prospect of a negotiated end to the dispute calmed nerves on Wall Street. After plunging in early trading, the Dow Jones industrial average ended up rising 231 points, or nearly 1 percent, to 24,264.

The sanctions standoff started last month when the United States slapped tariffs on imported steel and aluminum. On Monday, China countered by announcing tariffs on \$3 billion worth of U.S. products. The next day, the United States proposed the \$50 billion in duties on Chinese imports, and Beijing lashed back within hours with a threat of further tariffs of its own.

Things could easily escalate. The U.S. Treasury is working on plans to restrict Chinese technology investments in the United States. And there's talk that the U.S. could also put limits on visas for Chinese who want to visit or study in this country.

For its part, China conspicuously left large aircraft off its sanctions list Wednesday, suggesting it is reserving the option to target Boeing if relations deteriorate further.

Douglas Irwin, a Dartmouth College economist who has just written a history of U.S. trade policy, said the tit-for-tat tariffs are shaping up as the biggest trade battle since World War II.

"It's huge," he said.

In 1987, the Reagan administration triggered shockwaves by slapping tariffs on just \$300 million worth of Japanese imports—that's million with an "m"—in a dispute over the semiconductor industry. Those

tariffs covered less than 1 percent of Japanese imports at the time.

The tariffs the U.S. unveiled Tuesday apply to nearly 10 percent of Chinese goods imports of \$506 billion.

And during the dispute three decades ago, Japan, a close U.S. ally, chose not to retaliate. It eventually gave in to U.S. demands.

"What we've seen with China is very different," Irwin said. "When the steel tariffs went in - boom, they came back with retaliation. ... They were not going to take it lying down."

Making matters trickier, the dispute over Chinese technology policy strikes at the heart of Beijing's ambitions to become the global leader in cutting-edge technologies like artificial intelligence and quantum computing.

In August, President Donald Trump ordered the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative to investigate China's tech policies, particularly longstanding allegations that it coerces U.S. companies into handing over sensitive technology to gain access to the Chinese market. The tariffs proposed Tuesday were the result of that investigation.

The U.S. also accuses China of treating U.S. companies unfairly when they try to do business there and of encouraging Chinese hackers to break into U.S. corporate computer systems and steal trade secrets.

The Trump administration is coming under intense pressure to de-escalate the dispute. American farmers, who disproportionately supported Trump in the 2016 election, are especially outspoken in seeking trade peace. After all, China buys nearly 60 percent of American soybean exports.

tion. The civil war next door has also hindered land exports to Jordan, Iraq and oil-rich Gulf nations. From 2007 until 2010, Lebanon's economy grew at an average of 9 percent annually. But it hit a major downturn in 2011, when a political crisis brought down the government and the Syrian uprising stoked unrest among Lebanese factions. Since then, growth has averaged a mere 1.5 percent, according to government estimates, and rampant corruption has hollowed out infrastructure and basic services.

Delta Air Lines says it was hit by cyberattack

Delta Air Lines said Wednesday that some of its customers' payment information may have been breached in a cyberattack last fall. The airline said

the incident involved (24)7.ai, a chat-services provider used by Delta and other companies. Delta says only "a small subset" of customers were affected, with payment information exposed from Sept. 26 to Oct. 12. It says no other personal details about customers, such as their passport, security or frequent-flyer account information, was affected. The Atlanta-based airline says (24)7.ai informed it of the breach last week. Delta brought in federal law enforcement and forensic teams and confirmed that the unauthorized access was cut off by October. Delta says it will make sure customers aren't held responsible if their payment cards were used fraudulently. It will create a website Thursday to update customers.

Nation

Mueller's Russia probe shows it pays to cooperate

WASHINGTON (AP)—

George Papadopoulos, taken by surprise by FBI agents at an airport last summer, now tweets smiling beach selfies with a Mykonos hashtag. Rick Gates, for weeks on home confinement with electronic monitoring, gets rapid approval for a family vacation and shaves down his potential prison time. Michael Flynn, once the target of a grand jury investigation, flies cross-country to stump for a California congressional candidate and books a speaking event in New York.

The message is unmistakable: It pays to cooperate with the government.

That's an age-old truism in any criminal investigation, but it's especially notable in a case as pressing and high profile as special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia probe, where deals afforded to cooperators have raised speculation about incriminating information they're providing.

The perks of cooperation have manifested themselves in freer travel, lenient punishment prospects and even public comments by defendants that might have been unthinkable months ago. They form a counterpoint



In this Dec. 1, 2017, file photo, former national security adviser Michael Flynn for President Donald Trump leaves federal court in Washington.

to the experiences of Paul Manafort, the former Trump campaign chairman who has refused to cooperate and faces decades in prison, and send a message to others entangled in the Mueller probe that they too could receive favorable treatment if they agree to work with investigators.

"There's no question that it's in the government's interest to take what steps they can to show that cooperating is in the interest of the defendant," said Daniel Petalas, a former federal prosecutor. "A basic principle of plea bargaining is that you have to make it worth it to the de-

fendant to admit liability in a criminal matter."

The latest example came Tuesday when Dutch lawyer Alex van der Zwaan was sentenced to 30 days in prison for lying to the FBI. Though his plea deal didn't explicitly require cooperation, the charge he pleaded guilty to carries a maximum five-year sentence and it's likely the attorney, whose wife is pregnant in London, risked a longer punishment if convicted at trial. U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson said some incarceration was necessary to deter others from lying to investigators.

YouTube shooter's bizarre videos key to suspected motive

MENIFEE, Calif. (AP)—The woman whom police say shot three people at YouTube's headquarters was prolific at producing videos and posting them online, many of them bizarre such as a clip in which she removes a revealing purple dress to expose fake breasts with the message, "Don't Trust Your Eyes."

In others, Nasim Aghdam exercises, promotes animal rights and explains the vegan diet, often in elaborate costumes or carrying a rabbit.

The videos have become central to the motive authorities have settled on for the shooting: Aghdam's anger with the policies of YouTube—the world's biggest online video website.

Nasim Aghdam, who was in her late 30s, posted the videos under the online name Nasime Sabz, and a website in that name decried YouTube's policies, saying the company was trying to "suppress" content creators.

"Youtube filtered my channels to keep them from getting views!" one of the messages said. "There is no equal growth opportunity on YOUTUBE or any other video sharing site, your channel will grow if they want to!!!!"

People who post on YouTube can receive money from advertisements that accompany their videos, but the company "de-monetizes" some channels for reasons including inappropriate material or having fewer than 1,000 subscribers.

YouTube had no comment about any actions related to Aghdam's videos.

Nasim Aghdam also ran a Farsi-language public channel on the messaging app Telegram, which had 6,000 followers. Telegram reportedly has some 40 million users in Iran. In one post she says, "Internet crackdown and filtering is increasing in the West."

Police who found Nasim

Aghdam sleeping in her car early Tuesday in the city of Mountain View about 25 miles (40 kilometers) from YouTube headquarters said she was calm and said nothing about being angry with YouTube or having any plans to harm others or herself.

"It was a very normal conversation. There was nothing in her behavior that suggested anything unusual," said Mountain View Police Chief Max Bosel.

Later that day, Aghdam went to a gun range before walking through a parking garage into a courtyard at YouTube's campus south of San Francisco, where she opened fire with a handgun and wounded three people, police said. She then killed herself.

Two women wounded in the shooting were released Wednesday from a San Francisco hospital. The third victim, a 36-year-old man, was upgraded from critical to serious condition.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Lebanon seeks funds for troubled economy at Paris conference

BEIRUT (AP)—Lebanon hopes to secure billions of dollars for infrastructure this week at an international donor conference in Paris, as it grapples with low growth and soaring debt. Some 50 countries and international organizations are expected at the CEDRE (Cedar) conference that begins Friday, where Beirut will request up to \$22 billion for an eight to 12 year investment program. Lebanon hopes an influx of cash will help revive the economy, which has been hammered by political unrest and spillover from the war in neighboring Syria. Lebanon is home to some 1.2 million refugees, accounting for nearly a quarter of its popula-

Asia

Preparatory talks begin to set up Kim-Moon summit begin



AP

South Korean Marine's amphibious assault vehicles move after attending joint military drills between South Korea and the U.S. in Pohang, South Korea, Thursday, April 5, 2018.

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The rival Koreas on Thursday began preparatory talks to set up a summit later this month between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in amid a global diplomatic push to resolve tensions over the North's nuclear program.

The meeting of working-level officials at the border village of Panmunjom was to discuss security, protocol and media coverage issues for the April 27 summit.

The Koreas after a high-level meeting last week agreed on the date of the summit. South Korean officials have said the summit will be focused on disarming North Korea of nuclear weapons, although the North

hasn't officially confirmed this through its state-run media.

A summit between Kim and President Donald Trump is anticipated by the end of May.

It may take more than one meeting for the Koreas to work out the details of the summit that will take place on the South Korea-controlled side of Panmunjom. The Koreas would need to agree on how Kim would arrive at the venue, including whether he would cross the military demarcation line that bisects the Koreas by foot in a symbolic gesture. The Koreas also need to determine how many times he and Moon would meet on that day and also whether parts of their meeting would be broadcast on live television.

The Koreas have held only two summits since the 1950-53 Korean War.

Kim last month made a surprise visit to Beijing and met Chinese President Xi Jinping, which appeared to be aimed at improving both countries' positions ahead of Kim's planned summits with Moon and Trump.

In setting up separate talks with Beijing, Seoul, Washington, and potentially Moscow and Tokyo, North Korea may be moving to disrupt any united front among its negotiating counterparts. By reintroducing China, which is North Korea's only major ally, as a major player, the North also gains leverage against South Korea and the United States, analysts say.

Duterte said Boracay's water has turned into a "cesspool" with human waste being discharged into the sea. More than 2 million tourists visited Boracay last year to enjoy its powdery beaches, spectacular sunsets and festive nightlife, generating about 56 billion pesos (\$1 billion) in revenue. But the influx of tourists, neglected infrastructure and growth of resort establishments and poor settlements have threatened to turn Boracay into a "dead island" in less than a decade, according to a government study.

S. Korean military says fighter jet crashes on mountain
SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's air force said one of its F-15K fighter jets crashed Thursday at a mountain in the country's rural south. It isn't immediately clear what caused the crash or whether both pilots

safely ejected. The air force said crews are searching for the pilots who were flying back to their base in the city of Daegu after an unspecified mission. An official from the Chilgok Fire Department said dozens of firefighters and rescuers were approaching the site deep into the mountain by foot and didn't have visuals of the aircraft yet. He didn't want to be named, citing office rules. An employee at a nearby golf club said he heard what seemed to be a succession of explosions that also left the club's building shaking. "The fog was very thick and we couldn't see anything clearly," said the employee at the Gasan Country Club, who said the crash site was not far from the club's fourth hole. "There were several bangs that went off between gaps of a few seconds." The employee also didn't want to be named, saying he wasn't authorized to speak to reporters

World

Fear grips Yemen's Aden as deadly attacks target clerics

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—A spate of deadly drive-by shootings targeting Muslim clerics and preachers has sparked panic and fear in Yemen's southern port city of Aden, prompting some imams to quit and abandon their mosques while dozens have fled the country.

The killings have also brought attention to a rivalry that has emerged in Aden as yet another layer to Yemen's complex civil war.

Since 2015, the conflict has pitted a Saudi-led coalition of mostly Arab states against the country's Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, who control much of northern Yemen and its capital, Sanaa. The coalition is fighting to restore Yemen's internationally recognized President Abed-Rabbo Mansour Hadi to power.

The United Arab Emirates joined the war as a key partner in the coalition, sending forces to southern Yemen and managing to carve out a zone of influence across the region. The UAE has set up heavily-armed militias in a challenge to forces loyal to Hadi, who has been in self-imposed exile in Saudi Arabia for most of the past two years.

In several instances, UAE-

trained militiamen, some operating under the umbrella of the Southern Transitional Council—which many see as a secessionist force fighting for an independent Southern Yemen—have engaged in deadly clashes with Hadi's forces. The UAE has also been linked to secret prisons where terror suspects are tortured and held without trial, a charge the Emiratis deny.

The Gulf Arab state also holds deep enmity toward Hadi's top ally in the south, the Muslim Brotherhood branch in Yemen, known as the Islah party.

Many of the slain clerics belonged to the Islah party. In most cases, they were shot by gunmen while leaving their mosques after Friday prayers, or outside their homes.

A tally by The Associated Press shows that at least 25 clerics, preachers, and religious scholars have been gunned down since 2016 in Aden and the southern provinces, with over 15 killed in the past six months alone.

The slayings have stoked anger against the UAE in Aden. Recently, graffiti saying, "Down with the UAE occupation" surfaced in the streets. On Tuesday, a joint statement by 12 political

parties and movements denounced the "evil hands behind the assassinations" of the clerics. It said those killed are all supporters of Hadi's government.

Minister of Religious Endowment Ahmed Attiya said the killings are "systematic" and that over 50 clerics have left Yemen so far, fleeing to countries such as Egypt and Jordan.

"If this continues, we will ask the clerics to stay home and stop going to mosques," he said from Riyadh.

Attiya has also appealed for an effort to "rescue the clerics, scholars, and imams" of Aden and his office has warned that the killings are taking place hand-in-hand with forced replacements of clerics affiliated with Islah.

Hadi's government, which operates mostly out of exile with only a few ministers on the ground in Aden, has denounced the slayings as "desperate attempts by terrorist elements and outlaws" against Yemen's legitimate government.

No group has claimed responsibility for the killings. Security authorities in Aden would only say that they are investigating and that they have rounded some suspects.

Brazil's top court rules against da Silva on prison

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Brazil's top court voted narrowly in the early hours Thursday to turn down an attempt by former President Luiz Inacio da Silva to stay out of jail while he appeals a corruption conviction, a decision that will have widespread implications in this polarized nation.

After nearly 11 hours of often heated debate, the justices of the Supreme Federal Tribunal voted 6-5 to deny da Silva's preventative habeas corpus request to stave off a 12-year jail sentence while he fights a conviction in a case that he argues was nothing more than a ploy to keep him off of October's presidential ballot.

Despite the conviction and several other corruption charges pending against him, da Silva leads all preference polls for the election. The decision means he will likely be jailed soon, though probably not until at least next week thanks to various technicalities.

Within minutes of the decision, da Silva's Workers' Par-

ty, which held Brazil's presidency from 2003 to 2016, put out a tweet that foreshadowed the struggles to come.

"The Brazilian people have the right to vote for Lula, the candidate of hope," it read. "The Workers' Party will defend this candidacy on the streets and in every court until the last consequences."

The court's debate underscored how fraught the matter is at a time of high tension and angst in Brazil, which is struggling to emerge from a crippling recession and is four years into a major corruption scandal that has ensnared much of the country's elite, including da Silva.

"The constitution secures individual rights, which are fundamental to democracy, but it also assures the exercise of criminal law," said Chief Justice Carmen Lucia, who cast the deciding vote after spending much of the session being criticized by colleagues.

Justice Gilmar Mendes, traditionally a critic of da Silva, voted in favor of the

former leader's petition to stay out of jail, challenging his colleagues to buck pressure from society.

"If a court bows (to pressure), it might as well not exist," said Mendes.

Justice Luis Roberto Barroso argued that the integrity of the justice system was at stake.

"A penal system that doesn't work with minimal effectiveness leads to an instinct for taking justice into one's own hands," said Barroso, who voted against the petition.

Justice Rosa Weber, who legal analysts predicted would be key because there was much doubt about her position on the matter, voted against da Silva.

In one of several brisk exchanges, after Weber's vote, justice Marco Aurelio Mello accused Lucia of plotting against da Silva's case. Mello said limiting the vote just to the habeas corpus petition and not the larger question of when a convict should be forced to begin serving a sentence helped sway Weber's vote.

ASIAN BRIEFS

PH to shut polluted isle Duterte called a cesspool

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has approved the closure of the tourist destination of Boracay for up to six months after saying the waters off its famed white-sand beaches had become a "cesspool" due to overcrowding and development. Duterte approved the total shutdown of Boracay as a tourist destination starting April 26 in a Cabinet meeting Wednesday night after extensive discussions of its impact, including ways to help about 17,000 workers who may be displaced, tourism undersecretary Frederick Alegre said Thursday. "This is not about profit, it's about the political will to deal with years of neglect of the environment," Alegre said. "We need to act swiftly to save the island and avert its further deterioration." Last February,

Off The Wall

‘Miraculous’: Teen survives 12 hours in Los Angeles sewage

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A 13-year-old boy was miraculously rescued Monday after falling into a river of sewage in Los Angeles, getting swept away and spending more than 12 hours in the city’s toxic and mazelike underground sewer system.

Jesse Hernandez had been playing with other children on wooden planks over an access portal to the sewer system during a family outing Sunday at a Los Angeles park. When a plank broke, Jesse fell about 25 feet (8 meters) and landed in fast-moving sewage, said Brian Humphrey, a spokesman for the Los Angeles Fire Department.

The other children immediately notified adults, who called 911, initiating a frantic and exhaustive 12-hour search of labyrinthine underground pipes using cameras propped on flotation devices.

Rescuers finally found Jesse after seeing images of handprints on a sewage pipe. A sanitation crew rushed to the area and opened a manhole.

“The first thing they heard was ‘Help!’” said Adel Hagekhalil, assistant general manager of the sanitation department.

The crew lowered down a hose to Jesse, who was about 11 feet (3 meters) deep in the pipe.

“He caught onto the hose and was reeled back up,” Hagekhalil said.

Rescuers gave him immediate medical attention, including hosing him down to get rid of the sewage and cleaning out



This photo from remote camera video provided by the Los Angeles Department of Sanitation shows where 13-year-old Jesse Hernandez traced an arc with his fingers, the small arc at center left, as he was swept through a 4-foot diameter pipe after falling into a hole in Griffith Park in Los Angeles, Monday, April 2, 2018.

his eyes and nose with sterile saline, Humphrey said.

Jesse immediately asked for a cellphone to call his family. A worker handed him a phone, and he called his mom.

The boy later told KNBC-TV that he was tired and a bit scraped up, but otherwise OK.

“I was praying to God to help me and to not die,” Jesse said. “It was all quiet. You could just hear the water running through and you couldn’t see anything. It was dark.”

Video released by the city later in the day showed long dark marks on the sides of the dank sewage pipe, which was about 4 feet (1 meter) in diameter, where Jesse’s fingers would have slid.

After an accident like Jesse’s, rescuers say the likeli-

hood of someone being found safe diminishes by the hour. Hagekhalil said rescuers were thrilled at the outcome.

“They never gave up hope,” Hagekhalil said. “They wanted to bring Jesse back to his family.”

About 2,400 feet (731 meters) of pipe had been inspected when rescuers found Jesse less than a mile from where he disappeared. He was taken to a hospital for a full evaluation and to be reunited with his family.

In addition to the massive rescue effort involving more than 100 people, Humphrey credited Jesse for his survival. Not only did he survive getting swept through sewage moving at 15 mph (24 kph), he managed to find a pocket of breathable air and hang on until he was found, authorities said.

humans. Authorities are asking residents to report raccoons behaving unusually to their local police station.

Daffy idea? Wisconsin voter wants to bring ducks to election

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—A voter in a tiny northeast Wisconsin town wants to bring ducks to the polling station along with a sign that reads: “If you don’t vote, you can’t squawk.” Winneconne town clerk Yvonne Zobel says the voter asked town officials Tuesday whether she could bring three caged ducks and the sign to the town hall during the November election. Zobel ducked giving an answer initially, and instead checked with the state Elections Commission. It advised her to keep the ducks at least 100 feet away from the polling booths so they wouldn’t be disruptive. Zobel says she’s going to tell the voter every-

one likes the idea, but maybe it makes more sense to have the ducks someplace else “where it would prompt somebody to go out and vote.”

Suspect sings ‘Cops’ theme following chase and arrest

HAWORTH, N.J. (AP)—A teenager sang the theme from the television show “Cops” after he was arrested following a chase in New Jersey. Haworth police tell The Record the 16-year-old was driving a stolen car when officers gave chase on Saturday. Officers pursued the vehicle through a golf course before the suspect bailed out. He can be heard singing on dash cam video, “Bad boys, bad boys, whatcha gonna do?” The teen, whose name was not released because he’s a juvenile, faces charges including eluding, resisting arrest by flight, burglary and receiving stolen property.

Science & Technology

Facebook scandal affected up to 87M

NEW YORK (AP)—Facebook revealed Wednesday that tens of millions more people might have been exposed in the Cambridge Analytica privacy scandal than previously thought and said it will restrict the user data that outsiders can access.

Those developments came as congressional officials said CEO Mark Zuckerberg will testify next week, while Facebook unveiled a new privacy policy that aims to explain the data it gathers on users more clearly—but doesn’t actually change what it collects and shares.

In a call with reporters Wednesday, Zuckerberg acknowledged he made a “huge mistake” in failing to take a broad enough view of what Facebook’s responsibility is in the world. He said it isn’t enough for Facebook to believe app developers when they say they follow the rules. He says Facebook has to ensure they do.

Facebook is facing its worst privacy scandal in years following allegations that Cambridge Analytica, a Trump-affiliated data mining firm, used ill-gotten data from millions of users through an app to try to influ-

ence elections.

Facebook said Wednesday that as many as 87 million people might have had their data accessed—an increase from the 50 million disclosed in published reports. Facebook is basing the estimate in part on the number of friends each user might have had. Cambridge Analytica said in a statement that it had data for only 30 million people.

On Monday all Facebook users will receive a notice on their Facebook feeds with a link to see what apps they use and what information they have shared with those apps. They’ll have a chance to delete apps they no longer want. Users who might have had their data shared with Cambridge Analytica will be told of that. Facebook says most of the affected users are in the U.S.

Zuckerberg said fixing the company’s problems will take years.

Besides the privacy scandal, Facebook also has been dealing with fake news, the use of Facebook to spread hate and discord and concerns about social media’s effect on people’s mental well-being.

These are “big issues” and a big shift for Facebook as it

broadens its responsibility, Zuckerberg said. He added that he does think that by the end of this year the company will have “turned a corner” on a lot of the issues. Zuckerberg has made fixing the company his personal challenge for 2018.

As part of the steps it’s taking to address scrutiny about outsiders’ access to user data, Facebook outlined several changes to further tighten its policies. For one, it is restricting access that apps can have to data about users’ events, as well as information about groups such as member lists and content.

In addition, the company is also removing the option to search for users by entering a phone number or an email address. While this helped individuals find friends, Facebook says businesses that had phone or email information on customers were able to collect profile information this way. Facebook says it believes most of its 2.2 billion users had their public profile information scraped by businesses or various malicious actors through this technique at some point. Posts and other content set to be visible only to friends weren’t collected.

The center of the Milky Way is teeming with black holes

WASHINGTON (AP)—The center of our galaxy is teeming with black holes, sort of like a Times Square for strange super gravity objects, astronomers discovered.

For decades, scientists theorized that circling in the center of galaxies, including ours, were lots of stellar black holes, collapsed giant stars where the gravity is so strong even light doesn’t get out. But they hadn’t seen evidence of them in the Milky Way core until now.

Astronomers poring over old x-ray observations have found signs of a dozen black holes in the inner circle of the Milky Way. And since most black holes can’t even be spotted that way, they calculate that there are likely thousands of them there. They estimate it could be about 10,000, maybe more, according to a study in Wednesday’s journal Nature.

“There’s lots of action going on there,” said study lead author Chuck Hailey, a Columbia University astrophysicist. “The galactic center is a strange place. That’s why people like to study it.”

The stellar black holes are in addition to—and essen-

tially circling—the already known supermassive black hole, called Sagittarius A, that’s parked at the center of the Milky Way.

In the rest of the massive Milky Way, scientists have only spotted about five dozen black holes so far, Hailey said.

The newly discovered black holes are within about 19.2 trillion miles (30.9 trillion kilometers) of the supermassive black hole at the center. So there’s still a lot of empty space and gas amid all those black holes. But if you took the equivalent space around Earth there would be zero black holes, not thousands, Hailey said.

Earth is in spiral arm around 3,000 light years away from the center of the galaxy. (A light year is 5.9 trillion miles, or 9.5 trillion kilometers.)

Harvard astronomer Avi Loeb, who wasn’t part of the study, praised the finding as exciting but confirming what scientists had long expected.

The newly confirmed black holes are about 10 times the mass of our sun, as opposed to the central supermassive black hole, which has the mass of 4 million suns. Also the ones spotted

are only the type that are binary, where a black hole has partnered with another star and together they emit large amount of x-rays as the star’s outer layer is sucked into the black hole. Those x-rays are what astronomers observe.

When astronomers look at closer binary black hole systems they could then see the ratio between what’s visible and what’s too faint to be observed from far away. Using that ratio, Hailey figures that even though they only spotted a dozen there must be 300 to 500 binary black hole systems.

But binary black hole systems are likely only 5 percent of all black holes, so that means there are really thousands of them, Hailey said.

There are good reasons the Milky Way’s black holes tend to be in the center of the galaxy, Hailey said.

First, their mass tends to pull them to the center. But mostly the center of the galaxy is the perfect “hot house” for black hole formation, with lots of dust and gas.

Hailey said it is “sort of like a little farm where you have all the right conditions to produce and hold on to a large number of black holes.”

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Police investigate reports of ‘zombie’ raccoons

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio (AP)—Police are investigating reports of “zombie-like” raccoons in northeast Ohio. WKBN-TV reports Youngstown police have received more than a dozen calls in the past three weeks about raccoons acting strangely in the daytime. Photographer Robert Coggeshall says he was playing with his dogs outside his home last week when one such raccoon approached them. Coggeshall says the animal would stand on its hind legs, show its teeth and fall over backward. The raccoon Coggeshall saw and 14 others police responded to were euthanized. The state Department of Natural Resources says the animals were likely suffering from distemper, not rabies. The viral disease causes coughing, tremors and seizures and leads raccoons to lose their fear of

Life & Style

Bill Cosby's retrial jury mirrors first on gender, race

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP)—After a showdown over race, the jury picked to decide Bill Cosby's fate in the first big trial of the #MeToo era ended up mirroring the gender and racial makeup of the group that deadlocked last year: seven men and five women—10 white, two black.

Race dominated Wednesday's jury selection.

Cosby's lawyers alleged a member of the prosecution team made a disparaging remark after prosecutors rejected one of the few black women considered for the case. The defense, which argued nixing her was illegal, never revealed the remark they claim was said and eventually agreed to pick more jurors.

District Attorney Kevin Steele rejected the allegations, saying that prosecutors had no



AP
Bill Cosby leaves the Montgomery County Courthouse after jury selection for his sexual assault retrial, Wednesday, April 4, 2018, in Norristown, Pa.

urban Philadelphia jury pool.

Just 10 of about 240 prospective jurors questioned on the first three days of jury selection were black, or about 4.2 percent. The black population in Montgomery County is about 9.6 percent black, according to the latest U.S. Census estimates.

The county says the names of people called for jury duty are selected randomly from a master list that combines voter registration records and driver's license records.

Two of the six black people in an initial group of 120 potential jurors were invited back for individual questioning and wound up getting picked for the jury. The woman rejected on Wednesday

was the only black person to reach that stage.

The jury for Cosby's first trial was selected from about 300 miles (483 kilometers) away in the Pittsburgh area. The retrial jury is being picked from the same county where the 80-year-old Cosby is on trial on charges he drugged and molested a woman in 2004.

"This man faces the rest of his life in jail," lawyer Kathleen Bliss said, arguing Cosby, who is black, deserved to have more people on the jury who looked like him.

Cosby's lawyers had appeared ready to strike at the first instance of prosecutors blocking a black juror, producing a legal brief that argued the move violated a 32-year-old Supreme Court ruling that prohibits prosecutors from excluding prospective jurors because of their race. The defense had made the same argument on Tuesday regarding the prosecution's exclusion of several white men, but O'Neill rejected it.

problem seating the two other black people who had appeared for individual questioning. He contended that Cosby's lawyers were playing to the media.

"There's absolutely no legitimacy to this," Steele said.

Both sides will return to court on Thursday to select six alternates.

The battle over the black juror's removal highlighted a vast racial disparity that limited the number of black people available for consideration in the sub-

Propelled by China, overseas moviegoing surges

NEW YORK (AP)—Even as trade tensions are mounting between the United States and China, the importance of Chinese moviegoers to Hollywood has never been more apparent.

Global moviegoing reached a record high of \$40.6 billion in 2017 despite a downturn in audiences at U.S. and Canada theaters, the Motion Picture Association of America said Wednesday in its annual report. That was despite the lowest attendance at domestic theaters in 22 years.

Instead, the growth was largely propelled by China, which accounted for \$7.9 billion in ticket sales in 2017. That fueled a 7 percent increase in the overseas box office. U.S.

and Canada ticket sales by comparison totaled \$11.1 billion, down 2 percent. If not for a 4 percent increase in the average ticket price to \$8.97, the drop would have been worse.

But after briefly stalling in 2016, the needle is going the other direction in China.

"The Chinese film market is going to be the largest film market in short order," said Charles H. Rivkin, the former assistant secretary of state who in January took over for Christopher Dodd as MPAA chairman. "They're building about 25 screens a day."

The shift has in many ways already begun. For the first time, the Chinese movie market overtook North America in



AP
In this March 16, 2017 file photo, the cast of movie "Kong: Skull Island" from left, Brie Larson, Jing Tian, Samuel L. Jackson and Tom Hiddleston pose for a photo during a press conference in Beijing, China.

the first quarter of 2018. Several big-budget Hollywood productions, including Steven Spielberg's "Ready Player One," "Pacific Rim: Uprising" and "Tomb Raider," debuted bigger in China than in the U.S. and Canada.

Suit dropped over Kylie and Kendall Jenner's Tupac T-shirts

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A lawsuit from a photographer who was suing Kendall and Kylie Jenner's fashion label over T-shirts with the late rapper Tupac Shakur's image on them is being dropped.

A document filed in federal court Wednesday says that both parties are asking a judge to dismiss the suit brought by Michael Miller against the Kendall + Kylie label.

The filing says each side will bear its own attorneys'

fees, but gives no details on any financial settlement.

Lawyers for both sides did not immediately reply to emails seeking comment.

Miller alleged the sisters of used his pictures of Shakur without permission. The label said they were obtained from a company licensed to sell them. The brand briefly offered shirts superimposing the sisters' images over famous musicians, but pulled them after complaints.

Father's habit of returning food proves hard to swallow

DEAR ABBY: I am in my 30s and moved out of my parents' home 10 years ago. Last week I decided to visit them, and we went out to eat. Dad has a habit of sending his food back to the kitchen—"My steak isn't cooked enough," or "My food is cold. Could you warm it up?" He even does this at restaurants that aren't fancy.

Dad has done this my whole life and he's in his 60s. It's embarrassing for me and Mom, and it frustrates the cooks and waitstaff. Is there a polite way of telling him to stop this behavior? He takes any criticism personally.

EMBARRASSED IN THE NORTHEAST

DEAR EMBARRASSED: You are certainly free to tell your father that this habit embarrasses you, but after all these years, you and your mother are not going to change him. Restaurants are in the hospitality business. If your father isn't satisfied with his food, he has a right to ask that it be served to his liking, and most restaurants will gladly comply. We are not responsible for the actions of other people, and because of that, you should not feel embarrassed about something over which you have no control.

DEAR ABBY: Last year for my birthday, my husband asked me what I wanted for a gift. I told him I would like flowers once a month

for one year. He's been pretty good about it. But I complained about the way I receive them, which is, when we are driving home in our truck (we work together) and it's nearing the end of the month, he'll pull into the parking lot at the grocery store, run in, come back and hand them to me. He always picks out a beautiful bunch, but my complaint was that it's never a "surprise." He says he can't decide if I'm ungrateful or a spoiled brat. What say you and your readers?

GRATEFUL IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR GRATEFUL: Your mistake was in not clearly specifying that what you wanted was a bouquet in a vase from a florist. However, because you also told your husband you wanted flowers once a month, I fail to see how they would in any way be a "surprise." He has been giving you what you asked for, and you shouldn't look a gift husband in the mouth. I'm not going to name call, but shame on you.

DEAR ABBY: People in nursing homes or at home—ill, incapacitated or retired—still need social contacts. In our busy society, these folks are often forgotten, and it is hurtful. We will all get there someday and will fully understand how important an occasional phone call or greeting card can be. Please ask your readers to make a note on their calendar as a "reminder." If they do, someone will be very grateful for the kind gesture

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



—most likely the recipient—but it may also be their family members. Kindness goes a long way.

REMEMBERING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR REMEMBERING: You have a caring soul. Your message is an important one, which is why I am sharing it with my readers. I know most of you are busy people, but a simple gesture can make a world of difference to those who may be isolated.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



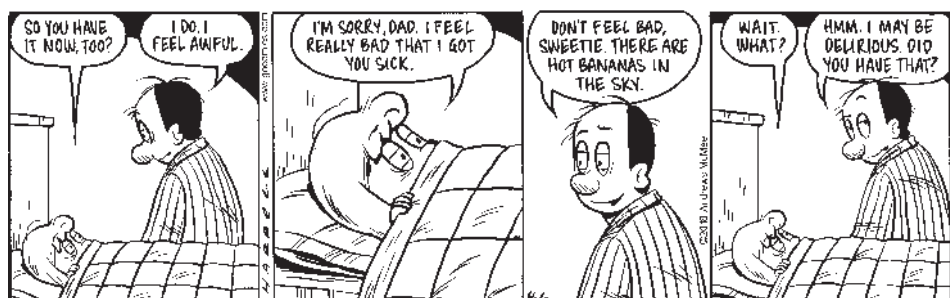
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

39 Past
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14 Leek's kin
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16 Onset
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lobby org.
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31 Reflection
34 Like old
apples
35 Explosive
sound
37 The Big
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38 Right on
the map

DOWN

1 Scare-
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2 Garlicky
mayo
3 "Mrs.
Dalloway"
4 Bar bills
5 "Burnt"
crayon
6 Aquarium
buildup
7 Dog
biscuit
shape
8 New
England
cape
9 Roman
52
10 Junior
11 Director
Lee
17 Press
agent?
21 Gold
mold
23 Bit of
dust
24 Alias
abbr.
25 Base-
ball's
Hodges
26 Whatever
28 Old Olds-
mobile
30 Actress
Adams
31 Mamie's
man
32 Goat's
cry
33 Six-pack
muscles
36 Beer
ingredient
37 "Enough!"
40 Paces
42 Puccini
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45 Mimics
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48 "Am —
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Solution time: 25 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 4-6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15			16			17				
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				45			46		47	
48	49	50	51						52	
53					54				55	
56					57				58	

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Eliza Coupe, 37; Candace Cameron Bure, 42; Zach Braff, 43; Paul Rudd, 49.

Happy Birthday: Change will entice you, but before you take a leap in a direction you know little about, consider all your options. Start by looking inward and considering the type of personal growth you can achieve in order to bring you closer to your goal. Formulate your plan and show consistency in executing what needs to be done. Your numbers are 7, 12, 23, 34, 36, 40, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Short trips to visit an old friend, relative or place you used to hang out will lead to interesting information about someone from your past. Gather information that will assist you with a decision you need to make. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll feel impulsive when it comes to spending money or making a decision that can affect your standard of living or how you get along with your peers. Taking care of someone else's affairs will be difficult and cause conflicts. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The changes you want to make will be met with opposition if you are too open and chatty about your plans. Work alone to bring about the desired results; you will feel good about your accomplishment. Don't divulge secrets. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Expect to encounter a change of heart. Someone you thought you could count on will let you down. Don't get worked up over something you cannot change. Look at your options and do

your own thing. Use your creative imagination to excel. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your changing attitude will keep you in touch with what's trending. Insight and multitasking are your best ways to make a lasting impression on someone who is in a position to help you get ahead. Positive change is heading your way. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Personal and spiritual growth along with relationships, love and romance are featured. Make plans to travel, socialize and spend time with people you enjoy being around. Children and older relatives will offer insight into something that's been bothering you. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Emotional matters will be difficult to deal with. Taking care of someone else's personal affairs will be difficult and depressing if you do it alone. Enlist the help of someone you love and trust to help you. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take a fresh look at an old idea or plan. Someone from your past will boost your morale. A partnership looks promising, along with a personal update that boasts a trendy, successful image. Romance will improve your life. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Change can be a blessing if you go about it the right way. Share your ideas and you'll receive all sorts of information that will help you find the best way to reach your goal. Physical changes can be made. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Hidden matters are best kept that way. Don't discuss your past or your personal life, finances or plans. Someone will take advantage of the information you share. Don't make an impulsive decision. Focus on home and personal improvements. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A change in the way you do things will draw attention. Touch base with old friends or colleagues. Someone will shed light on a situation that took place a long time ago. Let the past go and move forward. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be eager to make an impulsive move, but before you do, go over all the facts, figures and scenarios that may occur should you take a risk. Stick to the people you trust and firsthand information. ★★

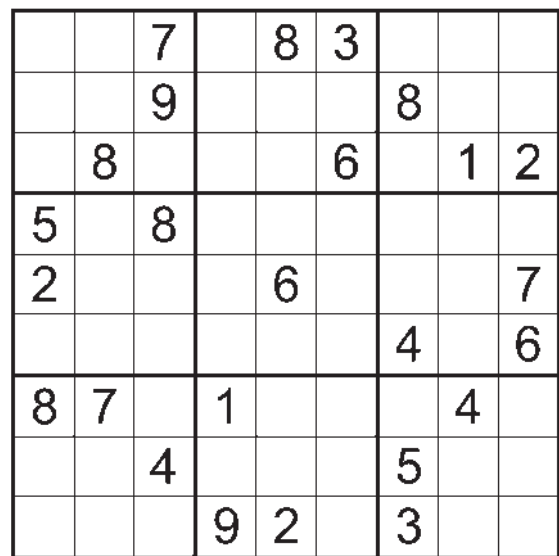
Birthday Baby: You are excitable, dynamic and unpredictable. You are entertaining and knowledgeable.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

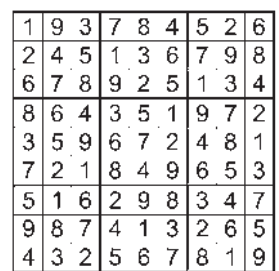


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/66

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

4/67

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SUNFLOWERS

Solution: 11 letters

F S P O R C D E E W N I S O R
E E I N R S D O O F R W B O A
T L E R E H N P E T A L U R Y
A A E E D T A L L M O N I L L
R C D T N O L C P O D Z R L E
E S I T E O D A M F O P I I S
P I S A L M O W L N R G G H S
M L E P S S O O A A U E O N D
E V K B C L W Y I L N W A I E
T E A R L E K R E U Y C S N S
A R L E R C I S S T K K E T E
T L Y H I E T N A I G D Y K R
N E E T S U P P A P R L E R T
E A S T E R A C E A E T A V O
D F L O R E T S G C O M M O N

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4/6

Arizona, Asteraceae, Bloom, Capitula, Common, Crops, Dentate, Desert, Disk, Florets, Flower, Food, Garden, Genus, Giant, Head, Herb, Hill, Lakeside, Ligules, Ovate, Pappus, Pattern, Petal, Prairie, Rayless, Rosinweed, Round, Scales, Seeds, Showy, Silverleaf, Slender, Smooth, Snack, Sticky, Style, Swamp, Tall, Temperate, Woodland, Yellow

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Stanton turns boos to cheers as Yanks down Rays



NEW YORK
(A P) —

Giancarlo Stanton turned on a high slider from Blake Snell, and the cracking sound in Yankee Stadium was exceptional.

The newest slugger in New York's lineup watched the drive head about 10 rows into the left-field second deck at 117.9 mph, the hardest-hit ball in the major leagues so far this young season.

Even before the ball landed 458 feet from home plate, Stanton flipped his bat with gusto toward New York's dugout and headed on a trot around the bases with his first Yankees home run in pinstripes.

Fans cheered, those career-high five strikeouts from the home opener a distant memory, along with the boos.

"It was loud," Aaron Judge marveled. "It was impressive."

Stanton hit an emphatic go-ahead drive in the first inning, and Judge and Gary Sanchez also hit two-run homers. The Bronx Bombers lived up to their nickname with a 7-2 win over the already reeling Tampa Bay Rays on Wednesday that completed a two-game sweep.

"Hopefully we'll put some back-to-back-to-backs in there," Stanton said, "but it's good that we all got one today."

Angels 3, Indians 2

In Anaheim, Shohei Ohtani hit his second homer in two games at Angel Stadium in the fifth inning, and Zack Cozart had walk-off homer in the 13th inning of the Los Angeles Angels victory over the Cleveland Indians.

One day after Ohtani hit an



electrifying three-run homer in his first home plate appearance, the Japanese two-way rookie connected for a tying two-run homer off AL Cy Young winner Corey Kluber in his second game at the Big A.

Diamondbacks 3, Dodgers 0

In Phoenix, Patrick Corbin shut out Los Angeles on one hit over 7 1/3 innings, striking out a career-high 12 for Arizona.

RG3 signs one-year deal with Ravens



O W I N G S
MILLS, Md.
(A P)—Robert Griffin III is poised to resume his NFL career about 35 miles away from where he started it.

The former Washington Redskins quarterback has reached agreement on a 1-year contract with the Baltimore Ravens, who love the idea of having the 2011 Heisman Trophy winner backing up 10-year starter Joe Flacco.

"Obviously, his personality, he's a confident guy. He's a very talented quarterback," coach John Harbaugh said of Griffin on Wednesday. "He's had a lot of success in this league early on. We're excited about it. We felt like we needed a No. 2 quarterback."

Griffin's last previous stop in an injury-riddled career came in 2016 with the Cleveland Browns. He started five games,

winning only one of them.

General manager Ozzie Newsome said Griffin, 28, didn't have far to travel before showing the Ravens he can still fling the ball.

"He still lives in the D.C./Virginia area," Newsome said. "We were bringing in some receivers and we asked him if he would come in and throw and go through a full workout for us. He took a physical. He did all of that. After that, he went to visit another team. We just were able to come to an agreement."

The terms were finalized late Tuesday night, and Newsome expects RG3 to sign the contract next week.

"I feel like we got a steal," Harbaugh said. "I felt like (Griffin) really wanted to be here. He really wanted to be a Raven."

Griffin won the Heisman Trophy with Baylor before being selected second overall

in the 2012 draft by the Redskins. He enjoyed a sensational rookie season, throwing 20 touchdown passes and only five interceptions, but his career took a decisive downturn after he tore knee ligaments in a playoff loss to Seattle.

RG3 returned in 2013 but was benched after throwing 16 TD passes and 13 interceptions. The following season, a dislocated ankle limited his effectiveness.

Griffin missed the 2015 season after sustaining a concussion during the preseason. After being released by Washington, he signed with the Browns in 2016.

He started the opener, sustained a shoulder injury and was put in injured reserve the following Monday. Griffin returned to play the final four games and was the starting quarterback the last time the Browns won, against San Diego on Dec. 24, 2016.

^{AP}
New York Yankees left fielder Giancarlo Stanton, left, and right fielder Aaron Judge leap in the air after the Yankees' 7-2 win over the Tampa Bay Rays at Yankee Stadium in New York, Wednesday, April 4, 2018.

two-run triple and New York's bullpen faced the minimum batters over five scoreless innings.

New York swept the weather-shortened two-game series.

With runners at the corners and two outs in the sixth, Rosario cleared the bases with a liner over the head of shallow-playing right fielder Nick Williams to chase reliever Drew Hutchison (1-1) and snap a 2-2 tie.

Astros 3, Orioles 2

In Houston, Josh Reddick had three hits, and Alex Bregman's tiebreaking RBI single in the seventh inning lifted Houston past Baltimore for a three-game sweep.

Miguel Castro (0-1) took over for Dylan Bundy to start the seventh and walked Derek Fisher with one out. Fisher stole second base with two outs and the Astros went on top when he scored on Bregman's single to left field.

Twins 7, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Brian Dozier homered for the third straight game, Miguel Sano drove in a pair of runs in frigid conditions and Minnesota handed Pittsburgh its first loss of the season.

Dozier hit a drive off the top of the left-field wall in the third inning for his fourth home run in four days. Sano finished 3 for 5 and started Minnesota's four-run rally in the sixth with an RBI single.

Mets 4, Phillies 2

In New York, Yoenis Cespedes homered, Amed Rosario hit a

White Sox 4, Blue Jays 3

In Toronto, Matt Davidson

hit his fourth home run of the season, Jose Abreu added a tiebreaking solo shot in the eighth inning and Chicago snapped Toronto's four-game winning streak.

Davidson homered leading off the second inning, driving a 3-1 pitch from Aaron Sanchez over the left-field fence. With the score tied at 3, Abreu connected on a 3-0 pitch from reliever Ryan Tepera (1-1).

Giants 10, Mariners 1

In San Francisco, Pablo Sandoval splashed a three-run homer into McCovey Cove while making a rare start, Johnny Cueto earned his first win of the season and San Francisco jumped all over Seattle ace Felix Hernandez.

Brandon Belt, Brandon Crawford and Gorkys Hernandez also homered as the Giants got their bats going at last to back Cueto (1-0).

Braves 7, Nationals 1

In Atlanta, Mike Foltynewicz outpitched Max Scherzer, Preston Tucker hit a three-run homer and Atlanta beat Washington.

Foltynewicz (1-0) allowed four hits, one run and two walks and had eight strikeouts in 5 1/3 innings. He snapped an eight-start skid during which he went 0-7 with a 7.34 ERA.

Cardinals 6, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Carlos Martinez pitched into the ninth inning and struck out 10, Yadier Molina homered and St. Louis beat error-prone Milwaukee.

Leadoff batter Dexter Fowler scored twice in the first three innings for the Cardinals.

Russia says spy case tension won't hit World Cup security

MOSCOW (A P)—Russia's World Cup chief says international security cooperation for the tournament won't be disrupted by the tense relations with other countries following the poisoning of a former spy.

More than two dozen Western allies have expelled over 150 Russian diplomats amid the fallout from the attack on former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia in England last month.

"So far we've seen no impact," Alexei Sorokin, the CEO of Russia's World Cup organizing committee, told The Associated Press. "There will be law enforcement cooperation on an international level ... it's not affected by any changes in the political situation. It's a very specific set of actions and measures."

Russian and foreign security forces are expected to exchange information on

possible threats to the tournament ranging from terrorism to hooligans. That includes "a separate headquarters where police forces from different countries will cooperate on the same premises" to track potential troublemakers, Sorokin said.

Countries including Britain and Australia have advised their citizens to be cautious when visiting Russia due to the political tensions, but Sorokin

said fans had nothing to worry about. "I see no particular logical reasons for these warnings," he said. "This is Moscow, St. Petersburg, other cities, they are no safer, no (more) dangerous than other major European cities."

World Cup organizers do not believe the political tensions have affected ticket sales, he added.

"This is a clear indication that there is interest and the political situation ... has little or no effect on that," he said.

Monkey chants aimed at black players during last week's friendly between Russia and France have attracted extra attention to the problem of racism in Russian football.

Sorokin rejected criticism that Russian stewards should have done more to stop the chants during the game.

"I think stewards are receiving enough training. There are multiple hours of training and appropriate examinations," he said. "They are of course aware of the possibility of such a situation. However, if such incidents happen very quickly and they don't have time to respond, then it's hard to really prosecute that on the spot."



FIFA WORLD CUP
RUSSIA 2018

CT Law NMI Rollers whips Kagman Sparks

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CT Law NMI Rollers hammered the Kagman Sparks, 77-34, during the lone boys U18 division match

in the 2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The NMI Rollers capitalized on the Sparks' lackluster performance in the first quar-

ter to establish an early double-digit lead en route to a lopsided win. Kagman was held to 2 points in the opening quarter, courtesy of Jesse Pua's basket.



The NMI Rollers, on the other hand, recorded 20 points in the first canto after Chris Arceo, Angelo Factor, and Matthew Richardson found their target in that

period. Richardson scored 9 points, while Factor and Arceo combined for 10 markers to hand the NMI Rollers an 18-point lead.

After a dismal showing in the first frame, Kagman picked up its scoring a bit in the second quarter. However, the NMI Rollers kept its distance at the break, 32-14, as other players stepped up and contributed to the team's cause.

The NMI Rollers continued to outgun the Kagman Sparks in the second half, leaving the latter no chance to recover.

Arceo top-scored for the NMI Rollers with his 13 points, while Factor added 12, and A.J. Hudkins and Richardson chipped in 11 and 10, respectively.

NMI Rollers 77— Arceo 13, Factor 12, Hudkins 11, Richardson 10, Ogumoro 8, Dela Cruz 8, Quitugua 8, Valencia 6, Cruz 2, Agulto 2.

Kagman Sparks 34— Marcel 12, Pua 8, Pangelinan 4, Guerrero 4, Ogo 4, Babauta 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-2, 32-14, 56-26, 77-34.

KONQER Saipan holds Business League Challenge

Once again, Saipan's only extreme obstacle course challenge is giving businesses the chance to take on the KONQER course together, as part of the KONQER Business League Challenge, according to KONQER president Kelli Wedd.

"KONQER is the ultimate team-building experience, not to mention a great way to integrate health and wellness into your company's DNA," said Wedd. "We encourage

businesses to sign up, let your employees conquer the course together, and foster some friendly competition in the business community."

The league is limited to 25 teams and each squad is required to have 10 members to compete. Registration is available online at konqersports.com, and online registrants can save 25 percent



on team registration fees with promo code K6BIZ for a limited time. Interested teams may also contact support@konqersports.com to register offline.

"Our Business League teams will be timed as they complete the KONQER course and the top finisher will get a special prize package and all the glory and bragging rights," said Wedd.

"The Top 10 teams will also receive free admission to the post-event awards ceremony and mixer."

The second annual KONQER Obstacle Course Challenge is scheduled for April 28 at Kili Beach Park in Susupe. Recreational teams and individual registration forms are also available at konqersports.com. For more information, email support@konqersports.com. (PR)



KONQER SAIPAN PHOTO
KONQER Saipan participant shows teamwork during the inaugural event held last year at the Eloy S. Inos Peace Park.

NMA seeks nomination for coaching certification course

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics is encouraging interested individuals to join the Coaches Education and Certification System L1 Lecturers Course that will take place simultaneously with Saipan's hosting of the 2018 Oceania Micronesia Regional Championships in June.

Oceania Athletics Association regional development manager Regan Kama, in a letter sent to NMA president Ramon A. Tebuteb, said member federations need to nominate a candidate, who must be approved by the International Association of Athletics Federations before he or she is included in the class.

"This is an opportunity for current lecturers to be refreshed with the new IAAF curriculum. If you have more than one candidate, please send [their nomination] for the IAAF and OAA consideration," Kama said.

The lecturers' course will take

place from June 11 to 15. Off-island coaches who will attend the course are expected to arrive on Saipan on June 10.



The candidate—aside from being highly proficient in speaking and writing in English—must have a minimum

coaching accreditation of IAAF CECS Level I/II or its equivalent, an active coach, willing to work anytime if needed by their federation, and demonstrate teaching skills and experience.

Tebuteb is encouraging those who are in the Public School System, especially on Tinian and Rota, to take advantage of this opportunity and submit their names for nomination.

The deadline for nomination is set on April 30.

GTC

From Page 32

1-4, in its second assignment in last month's competition, but the loss eventually did not cost the Umangs the playoff seat, as GTC defeated San Vicente in the next game.

Meanwhile, Garapan may have placed second in the team standings, but it was ranked first in the most goals category after collecting 35 in 10 games. GTC earned 32 goals for second place and allowed the least with five. WSR gathered 25 goals and yielded nine—the same number Garapan gave up. Koblerville tallied 27 goals, just two more than what it allowed its opponents to score. San Vicente earned 11 and gave up 26, while Oleai failed to hit the board and yielded 58.

The NEA League is one of Northern Mariana Islands Football Club's grassroots programs. NMIFA staff members and coaches visit school in the afternoon to tap and train talents. Players selected then suit up for their respective schools in a series of competition as part of their training process.

OLEAI

From Page 32

would begin work—and the earliest may come out on May 14. The estimated timeline for the renovation and repair of the facilities at the sports complex is 150 days.

The Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, Oleai track oval, Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ball-

field, and Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield are the facilities that need repairs and other improvements.

Sonia Dancoe will serve as the construction manager and will oversee the project. She had already inspected the affected facilities a few months ago.

Northern Marianas Sports Association executive direc-

tor Tony Rogolifoi said the old chainlink fences at the track and "Tan Ge" field will be replaced, while additional power poles will also be placed. Some LED lights will be installed at the "Tan Ko" field as they last longer and are brighter.

"Two power poles will be placed at the softball field, while one will be at the track.

The flooring at the Ada Gym will be a new one and it will be wall-to-wall. It will also depend on the bidders if the bleachers need to be replaced," Rogolifoi added.

The repair work at the Oleai Sports Complex will be done in preparation for the CNMI's hosting of the Pacific Mini Games in 2021. The renovation of the facilities at the

complex has been arranged after the resurfacing work at the track was completed last year. The track and field facility has already received its Level II certification from the International Association of Athletics Federations in time for the 2018 Oceania Micronesia Regional Championships that Saipan will be hosting this June.

24, 25-32, 40-37, 52-51.

Men's Division

670 Sonics 82 — M. Duenas 30, E. Duenas 12, Cadiang 11, De Guzman 9, Ngeskebei 6, Aranda 5, Rabasto 4, Fidelino 2.

Ol'Aces Extra 69 — Rangamar 16, Jo. Santos 8, Nakashima 7, Ogumoro 7, Saures 5, Kim 6, Joyner 4, Secharmidal 4, Camacho 2, Je. Santos 2, Rogolifoi 1.

Scoring by quarters: 24-9, 46-22, 68-49, 81-69.

Women's Division

Lady Ol'Aces 52 — L. Rangamar 17, Kenty 12, Deleon Guerrero 12, Camacho 4, Castillo 3, K. Rangamar 2, Omar 2.

Fiesta Resort 51 — Pagarao 17, Tuazon 11, Watanabe 9, Alferos 8, Espinosa 2, Pablo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 10-

it two wins in a row after outclassing the Ol'Aces Extra, 82-69.

Matt Duenas exploded for 30 points to hand the 670 Sonics a double-digit winning margin.

Matt led the 670 Sonics' strong start, as his 10 points in the first quarter lifted his squad to a 24-9 lead. Matt's cousin, Ernest, also delivered for the 670 Sonics early in the game firing 7 of his 12 markers in the opening canto.

The 670 Sonics went on to keep big lead in the last three

in that canto and Krizel Tuazon nailing a point-blank shot in the closing minute.

Fiesta then failed to get the lead back, as it could not contain Rangamar in the fourth period.

Pagarao matched Rangamar's 17 markers, but the former was limited to two field goals in the fourth. Hale Kenty and Deleon Guerrero backed up Rangamar after recording 12 points each. Tuazon also finished in twin digits with her 11 markers.

Meanwhile, in the men's division, the 670 Sonics made

CLOSE

From Page 32

Rangamar and Taz Deleon Guerrero leading the squad's recovery. They combined for 9 points in the penultimate frame to give the Ol'Aces a 40-37 advantage, going into the final canto.

Fiesta started to collapse around the halfway mark of the third quarter, as it went scoreless for several minutes. It was held to a two field goals in the third period with Irish Pagarao drilling a triple early

Sebaklim homer powers Jays past Ballistics

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Larson Sibetang homered for the first time in his baseball career to help the Blue Jays earn a 13-6 win over the Ballistics in the 2018 Saipan Major League last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Sebaklim, with one out and a runner on first at the bottom of the seventh, took Brandon Pua's second pitch to deep right field with the ball clearing the "Tan Ko" fence and landing near the Marianas High School chainlink fence. Sebaklim now joins A.J. Lizama of the Chalan Kanoa Bears, Brian Camacho of Titanium, and Shane Yamada of the Mariners on the list of players who hit a home run this season.

Before Sebaklim's shot, Dominic Yumul led things off for the Blue Jays in the seventh and was struck out by

Pua, while Greg Sablan was hit by the Ballistic hurler's pitch. Sebaklim batted next and whacked the two-run dinger to break out from a tight 7-6 game.

Kimo Angailen and Neldreyton Skerei then both got on base on fielding errors by the Ballistics and touched home plate on a two-RBI single by Leo Salalila, who later scored on another bungled play by their opponents. R.J. Riungel, in the next play, caught Kier Agda's line drive, while Jess Mesa went to second on back-to-back fielding errors by the Ballistics. Noel Cabrera struck out against Pua to end the seventh, but not after the Blue Jays scored five runs with Sibetang's homer serving as the highlight of game.

Sibetang, who struck out twice, went 3-for-5 with three RBIs, while Leo Salalila drove in three runs to go with his two runs and a double on a 2-for-5 batting.



JON PEREZ

The Blue Jays' Greg Sablan waits for the pitch during their game against the Ballistics last Wednesday night in the 2018 Saipan Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Yumul scored three times and went 2-for-5 with a lead-off double at the bottom of the second inning.

Noel Cabrera tossed for eight innings and despite being tagged with four earned runs on eight hits, he retired 10 batters while walking seven.

Kier Agda closed out for the Blue Jays and after giving a leadoff triple to Keoni Lizama, he made a twisting catch on a Keola Camacho line drive for the first out. Agda then forced Adolfo Roppul to fly out to left fielder Skerei and the game ended after Jay Camacho grounded out to third baseman Angailen, who fielded the ball cleanly to Sibetang at first base.

The win snapped the Blue

Jays' three-game slide and improved their record to 3-5. However, despite the win, the TanHoldings-backed squad will still be missing the playoffs, as only the Top 4 teams after the round-robin play will be advancing to the next round and the Blue Jays are at the bottom four.

The Blue Jays' last victory was against the Indians, 18-8, last March 5. They dropped consecutive games against the defending champion Aces on March 12, 9-4; Titanium on March 19, 21-11; and the Chalan Kanoa Bears on March 26, 10-0.

The Blue Jays, who are handled by Froilan Camacho, will close out their season on April 9 as they duel the Mariners with the latter trying to remain in playoff contention.

The Ballistics, meanwhile, lost for the third straight time after securing its first win against the also-ran Outlaws, 15-8, on March 6. The Jay Camacho-managed team holds a 1-5 record and will next face Titanium on April 11.

Joeten Motors offers Honda Civic as hole-in-one prize



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Joeten Motors sales manager Ray Alvarez, sales consultant Yasmin Miles, service manager Calvin Yamagishi, Hyatt Regency Saipan Food & Beverage director Ty Pauling, director for rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla, Joeten Motors general manager Matt Deets, operations manager Peter Tenorio, and Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabriele Colombo pose with one of the hole-in-one prizes—a 2018 Honda Civic sports hatchback sedan—at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's 22nd Annual Charity Golf Classic.

This year, Joeten Motors elevated the excitement for Hyatt Regency Saipan's 22nd Annual Charity Golf Classic by donating a 2018 Honda Civic sports hatchback sedan, valued at \$27,995, as hole-in-one prize for the April 7 tournament that will be held at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort.

"Joeten Motors has supported the Hyatt tournament for many years and we are pleased to sponsor it again this year. Good luck to all the players this weekend and thank you to the organizers for what we expect to be another great

event," Joeten Motors general manager Matt Deets said.

The donation from Joeten Motors will also aid this year's beneficiaries: Make-A-Wish Foundation of Guam and CNM; CNMI Salvation Army; CNMI Center for Living Independently; 670 Sonics Basketball Association; Dan Dan Middle School STEM and Garden Club; and Saipan Paddling Club.

At Hyatt, the belief in fulfilling our purpose first begins with caring for others so that they can be their best—at work and beyond. That is the

core purpose of the Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic, there is no better place to care for others than within our own community.

"Hyatt Regency Saipan is proud to partner with companies like Joeten Motors for the past 22 years in positively impacting our community. The generosity of their donation will continue to provide value to our golfers and help us reach our goal of impacting our six local beneficiaries," Hyatt Regency Saipan Food & Beverage director Ty Pauling said. (PR)

T-Galleria, TSL Foundation back Hyatt golf tourney

Hyatt Regency Saipan receives cash and in-kind donation from platinum sponsors T Galleria Saipan and Tan Siu Lin Foundation for this weekend's Hyatt Regency Saipan 22nd Annual Charity Golf Classic.

"On behalf of Hyatt Regency Saipan, we would like to express our appreciation to T-Galleria's generous donation for their continued support of impacting our community and enhancing the lives of others. Our goal is for every volunteer to have fun and memorable experience while giving back to the community," Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa said.

Hyatt Regency Saipan also thanked the TSL Foundation for their continued support in the community through the annual golf tournament.

"It has been a wonderful pleasure working with the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabriele Colombo, T Galleria Saipan general manager Milan Rabold, Hyatt Regency Saipan director of rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla, marketing communications assistant manager Claudine Camacho, T Galleria Saipan president Marian Aldan-Pierce, operation support manager Marida Pensader, and executive manager for sales Billy Cheung pose for a photo during the donation turnover ceremony for the Hyatt Regency Saipan's 22nd Annual Charity Golf Classic.

great advertising and creative team at *Saipan Tribune*. The collaborative efforts and continued support from partnerships like Tan Siu Lin Foundation and *Saipan Tribune*

make the belief in caring and giving back to our communities possible," Hyatt Regency Saipan marketing communications assistant manager Claudine Camacho said. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Tan Siu Lin Foundation administration officer Mel Naputi, Community Relations director Carline Sablan, Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabriele Colombo, marketing communications assistant manager Claudine Camacho, director of rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla, Tan Siu Lin Foundation manager Merlie Tolentino and assistant manager Raymond Zapanta pose for a photo during the donation turnover ceremony for the Hyatt Regency Saipan's 22nd Annual Charity Golf Classic.



Stanton turns
boos to cheers as
Yanks down Rays

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Raptors beat
Celtics to close
in on top seed
in East

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Close win for Lady Ol'Aces

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Lia Rangamar scored 8 points in the fourth quarter to lift the Lady Ol'Aces to a 52-51 victory over Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in the women's division game in the 2018 MIBF Island-wide Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The win was third in as many games for the Lady Ol'Aces, putting them in the lead in the four-team field. Fiesta Resort, on the other hand, absorbed its second loss in three matches to remain in third place behind the Ol'Aces



(2-1). The Docomo Rollers (0-3) complete the standings.

Rangamar's total output in the playoff canto included the Lady Ol'Aces' last 5 markers. She knocked in a triple and then a layup to seal the victory for her squad. Her other field goal in the final period was also a shot from downtown. The former CNMI National Team member went on to finish with a game-high 17 points.

It was a come-from-behind victory for the Lady Ol'Aces, who faced a 14-point deficit at the end of the first quarter, 10-24, before grabbing the lead late in the third period with

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Lady Ol'Aces' Jovie Omar, left, and Taz Deleon Guererro, right, trap Fiesta Resort's Nanaka Watanabe during the third quarter of their women's division game in the MIBF island-wide caging last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

GTC leads Final 4 cast

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four teams are left to battle for the championship in the 2018 NEA Spring League as the preliminary games were completed last month at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.



Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School led the playoff qualifier after topping the team standings with its 8-2-0 win-draw-loss record. Joining GTC in the semifinals are Garapan Elementary School (8-1-1), William S. Reyes Elementary School (6-0-4), and Koblerville Elementary School (3-2-5). San Vicente Elementary School (2-1-7), and Oleai Elementary School (0-0-10) missed the cut.

In the Final Four, GTC will be paired against Koblerville, while the other semis tiff will have Garapan challenging WSR. Both the semifinals and title matches will be played on May 12 at the KES pitch.

GTC kept its undefeated record in the elimination round after winning against San Vicente, 1-0, and forcing a draw versus Garapan, last March 23. Garapan, on the other



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Garapan Elementary School, left, and Koblerville Elementary School players fight for possession during their game in the elimination round of the NEA League at the KES pitch.

hand, prevailed in its two other matches in the last day of the elimination. The Mallards shut down Oleai, 4-0,

and WSR, 2-0.

In other results in last month's matches, Koblerville eased past Oleai, 5-0, to take

the last Final Four berth. Koblerville then bowed to WSR,

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Oleai complex project now in bid process

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The renovation project for the facilities at the Oleai Sports Complex is now in the bidding stage, as interested contractors are allowed to submit their respective proposals beginning today.

The CNMI Public Assistance Office is overseeing the project through the funds given by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which allotted \$505,220 for the repairs of the facilities damaged by Typhoon Soudelor more than two years ago.

Patrick Guerrero of the Public As-

sistance Office, told Saipan Tribune that they would review all the bids before choosing a contractor.

"The project to renovate the sports complex is currently in the bid process. After that, we will choose a contractor and go through the contract processing. The time it takes to get through the contract stage vary," added Guerrero.

Once selected, the winning contractor must submit a bid bond, a guarantee that it would work on the project. Up next is the notice to proceed—the date when the contractor

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JON PEREZ

Some LED lights will be installed at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield once repair work at the Oleai Sports Complex begins next month.

